



## Aruba Honors Anthem and Flag Day

ORANJESTAD - On Wednesday, March 18th, Aruba's National Anthem and Flag Day was proudly celebrated with colorful pomp and circumstance across the island with Government Protocol Ceremonies, fun activities, sports and other events.

(Aruba Today Photo)  
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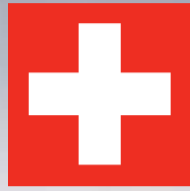
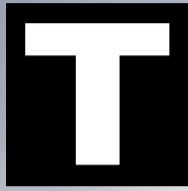
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## Police in Japan probe Kennedy death threats

MARTIN FACKLER  
RICK GLADSTONE

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**TOKYO** - The police in Japan are investigating telephoned death threats to the U.S. ambassador, Caroline Kennedy, the daughter of President John F. Kennedy, and to a U.S. diplomat in Okinawa, Japanese and international news agencies reported Wednesday.

The reports came as first lady Michelle Obama arrived in Japan on her first visit to the country, and as Kennedy, together with former President Bill Clinton, appeared with Prime Minister Shinzo Abe at a Tokyo symposium on the legacy of Kennedy's father, who was assassinated in November 1963 when she was 6 years old.

Concern about the security of U.S. diplomats in Asia was heightened a few weeks ago when the U.S. ambassador to South Korea, Mark Lippert, was slashed by a knife-wielding assailant in Seoul.

Responding to the reported death threats, the State Department spokeswoman, Jen Psaki, said Wednesday in a statement: "We take any threats to U.S. diplomats seriously. We take every step possible to protect our personnel. We will not comment on the specific details of any threats or the steps we take to address them."

The reports said that both Kennedy and Alfred Magleby, the U.S. consul-general in Okinawa, the southern island where the United States maintains a large military presence, had been the objects of death threats in telephone calls last month. □

## Netanyahu vows to work quickly on new government

ISABEL KERSHNER  
© 2015 New York Times

**JERUSALEM** - Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu of Israel pledged Wednesday to work quickly to form a new government after his clear-cut election victory as Isaac Herzog, the center-left opposition leader, conceded defeat.

"Our country's everyday reality doesn't give us the luxury for delay," Netanyahu of the conservative party Likud said in a statement. "The citizens of Israel rightfully expect that we will act quickly and responsibly to establish a leadership that will work for them in areas of defense, the economy and society just as we promised in this campaign - and just like we will now set ourselves toward doing," he added.

The new government will probably be made up mostly of right-wing and Orthodox parties. According to the statement, Netanyahu had already consulted overnight with the heads of the parties he expected to become coalition partners: Naftali Bennett of the pro-settlement Jewish Home; Moshe Kahlon of Kulanu, a new center-right party focused on economic issues; Avigdor Lieberman of the hard-line nationalist Yisrael Beiteinu; and the leaders of the ultra-Orthodox parties, Shas and United Torah Judaism.

Such a coalition would give Netanyahu a majority of 67 seats in the 120-seat Knesset, or parliament, with Likud commanding 30 of them, according to unofficial election results.

The prospect of a right-wing government prompted a hostile response from the Palestinian leadership, which has been inflamed by Netanyahu's provocative campaigning tactics,

including a reversal of his support for the establishment of a Palestinian state and scaremongering about the high turnout of Israeli Arab voters.

"The results of the Israeli elections show the success of a campaign platform based on settlements, racism, apartheid and the de-

munity must act. It must rally behind Palestinian efforts to internationalize our struggle for dignity and freedom through the International Criminal Court and through all other peaceful means." The stalled peace process has exacerbated American and European frustrations with Israel.

Kerry telephoned Netanyahu on Wednesday to congratulate him but they did not discuss "substantive issues" during the call, a senior State Department official said. Kerry called from Lausanne, Switzerland, where he was participating in nuclear talks with the Iranians. He did not respond



Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu greets supporters at the party's election headquarters in Tel Aviv, Wednesday, March 18, 2015. Netanyahu pledged Wednesday to work quickly to form a new government after his clear-cut election victory as Isaac Herzog, the center-left opposition leader, conceded defeat.

(AP Photo/Dan Balilty)

nial of the fundamental human rights of the Palestinian people," Saeb Erekat, the longtime chief Palestinian negotiator, said in a statement. "Such a result would not have been possible had the international community held Israel to account for its systematic violations of international law," he added.

Expecting continued confrontation between Netanyahu and the Palestinian Authority of President Mahmoud Abbas, whose relations have been in a downward spiral since the breakdown of U.S.-brokered negotiations last year, Erekat added: "Now, more than ever, the international com-

The European Union's foreign policy chief, Federica Mogherini, congratulated Netanyahu on his victory in a statement on Wednesday and said the bloc was "committed to working with the incoming Israeli government on a mutually beneficial relationship, as well as on the relaunch of the peace process."

But Mogherini added: "More than ever, bold leadership is required from all to reach a comprehensive, stable and viable settlement of a conflict that has already deprived too many generations of peace and security. It's time to turn this page."

Secretary of State John

to a question shouted by a reporter at the start of a negotiating session asking for his response to the Israeli election. Herzog, the Labor Party leader, and his center-left alliance, the Zionist Union, appeared to be headed back into the opposition.

"In the last few years we have proved that we know how to be a fighting opposition," Herzog said at a news conference Wednesday. "At this moment the only real possibility appears to be to go into the opposition," he said, adding, "We will be a worthy alternative in all spheres to the narrow right-wing government that will be short-lived." □





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## Millionaire Durst deemed suicide risk, moved to other prison



Law enforcement officers stand outside the building where Robert Durst owns some condominiums in Houston. Police were searching the Houston home of millionaire Durst after his arrest over the weekend in New Orleans. Durst is charged with murder in a Los Angeles killing 15 years ago, and has been suspected — but never charged — in the disappearance of his first wife in New York. In 2003, he was acquitted of murder in a dismemberment death in Texas.

(AP Photo/Houston Chronicle, James Nielsen)

**J. McCONNAUGHEY**  
**JUAN A. LOZANO**  
**Associated Press**

**NEW ORLEANS (AP)** — Robert Durst, the millionaire real estate heir who has been charged with murder, was

moved from a jail to a prison with a mental health unit because he is considered a suicide risk, officials said Wednesday.

Durst, 71, is in custody in Louisiana on gun charges

while awaiting a transfer to Los Angeles to face murder charges in the death of his friend Susan Berman 15 years ago.

His arrest this weekend came shortly before the

finale of an HBO television series about his links to the slaying of three people, including Berman. In the dramatic final episode, Durst mutters that he “killed them all,” but authorities have said his arrest was based on other evidence, not those words.

A city magistrate had ordered that Durst remain in the New Orleans jail. But the Orleans Parish Sheriff's Office appealed that order, and an appeals court ruled in favor of the sheriff on Tuesday.

He moved that night to Elayn Hunt Correctional Center in St. Gabriel, about 70 miles (113 kilometers) from New Orleans, according to the sheriff's office.

A three-judge panel ruled that the sheriff has sole authority to decide where to house inmates needing mental health treatment.

On Tuesday, seven officers spent hours searching Durst's Houston home — a condominium in a 17-story building in a posh neighborhood. They carried

away two white cardboard document boxes.

But Durst's attorney said he would be surprised if any evidence against his client were found.

Dick DeGuerin called the search “a publicity stunt” by a California prosecutor looking to pin the killing of Durst's friend on his client.

“I don't know what they could be looking for 15 years after Susan Berman was killed 1,500 miles away,” DeGuerin said. “I would really be surprised if they found anything of any evidentiary value.”

But Durst himself may have pointed to his Houston condo, in a recording made while talking to himself in a bathroom immediately after a tense interview with the makers of the documentary about his life.

Just before saying he “killed them all,” he says “I don't know what's in the house!” In the tape, filmed in a bathroom, Durst talks to himself in short bursts of whispers, apparently contemplating his arrest. □

### Boston:

## Blood on gloves in bomber's car matched that of dead officer

**DENISE LAVOIE**  
**AP Legal Affairs Writer**

**BOSTON (AP)** — The blood of a Massachusetts Institute of Technology police officer appeared on white gloves found in Boston Marathon bomber Dzhokhar Tsarnaev's car, a DNA expert testified Wednesday as prosecutors tried to show he played an active role in that killing days after the bombings.

Tsarnaev, 21, faces the possibility of the death penalty for his role in the 2013 deadly bombings. Three people were killed and more than 260 were injured when two pressure-cooker bombs ex-

ploded near the finish line of the marathon.

Tsarnaev's lawyer admitted during opening statements that he participated in the bombings but said his older brother, Tamerlan, was the mastermind. His lawyer also said it was Tamerlan, not Dzhokhar, who shot Officer Sean Collier as the brothers tried to flee.

Jennifer Montgomery, a DNA analyst with the state police crime lab, testified Wednesday that Collier's blood was on a pair of gloves found near the gas pedal and driver's seat of Tsarnaev's Honda Civic. Prosecutors have said the

brothers fled the scene of Collier's shooting in the Honda. An MIT graduate student who was riding his bike by the scene of the shooting identified Dzhokhar Tsarnaev as the man he saw leaning into Collier's police cruiser the night he was killed. Collier was shot six times, including three times in the head at close range.

During cross-examination by Tsarnaev's lawyers, Montgomery said she also tested blood on the sweatshirt Dzhokhar wore when Collier was shot. None of the blood was Collier's; it was all Dzhokhar's blood,

she said. After Collier's killing, the Tsarnaevs had a wild shootout with police. Tamerlan Tsarnaev died following the gunfight and being run over by his brother as he fled. Dzhokhar was found hours later, wounded and bloodied, hiding in a boat parked in a backyard in Watertown.

During earlier testimony Wednesday, jurors were shown two pipe bombs hurled at police during the shootout. Neither of those bombs exploded, but a third pipe bomb did. A pressure-cooker bomb similar to the bombs used in the marathon attacks caused

a powerful explosion that shook houses on the street and sent debris raining down on police.

Tsarnaev's lawyers showed the jury a photo of receipts Tamerlan had from a gun and ammunition store and for two backpacks and a soldering gun purchased in the days and weeks before the marathon bombings, apparently in an attempt to show that Tamerlan had a larger role in the bombings than Dzhokhar did.

While cross-examining a fingerprint expert, Tsarnaev's lawyers asked him to identify receipts found inside Tamerlan's wallet. □



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### Bloomberg, Gates launch anti-tobacco industry legal fund

**M. FELBERBAUM**  
AP Tobacco Writer  
**RICHMOND, Va. (AP)** — Former New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg and Microsoft Corp. co-founder Bill Gates are launching a fund to help low- and middle-income countries fight often long and expensive legal battles with the tobacco industry. The newly created Anti-Tobacco Trade Litigation Fund backed by \$4 million from Bloomberg Philanthropies and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation was announced Wednesday at the 16th World Conference on Tobacco or Health in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates. In recent years countries including Uruguay and Australia have been engaged in legal battles with tobacco companies over laws requiring graphic health warning labels or standard packaging for cigarettes without logos. The companies claim the tobacco-control policies violate international trade agreements and World Trade Organization rules. Bloomberg said the fund will assist smaller, developing countries that often don't have the resources to compete with tobacco companies. "We think most of these countries will win these battles but they have to be able to afford some lawyers that have experience in litigating to win," Bloomberg said in a conference call with reporters. Officials said the fund is expected to grow as additional donors come on board. Lawyers and other experts will also be tapped for free or discounted work to maximize funding. □

### AP source:

## US Secret Service knows suspect in cyanide probe

**ERIC TUCKER**  
**D. SUPERVILLE**  
Associated Press  
**WASHINGTON (AP)** — The person suspected of sending an envelope to the White House that may have contained cyanide is known to the Secret Service, which protects the president, and has sent multiple suspicious items over the last two decades, a federal law enforcement official familiar with the investigation said Wednesday. The official said the suspected sender has previously sent packages with rambling messages and foreign substances. The official was not authorized to discuss an ongoing investigation by name and spoke on condition of anonymity. The envelope was received at a mail processing center away from the White House for routine screening Monday and initial tests were negative for cyanide. A second test on Tuesday returned a "presumptive positive," the Secret Service said. Officials are waiting for the results

of a third round of testing to determine if the envelope indeed contained the toxin. The U.S. Postal Inspection Service is also investigating the case and referred all questions to the Secret Service.



Uniformed Secret Service agents patrol the top of the White House as seen from the South Lawn of the White House in Washington. According to the Secret Service a letter sent to the White House tentatively tested positive for cyanide.  
(AP Photo/Jacquelyn Martin)

The Secret Service, which is responsible for the safety and security of President Barack Obama and his immediate family, said its investigation into the letter was continuing and it

would have no additional comment on the matter. Suspicious letters often are sent to some of the country's leading politicians, including the president. Some test positive for hazardous substances while others include threats of

profanity and racial slurs. A federal judge later dismissed the charges after forensic handwriting analysis conducted by the Secret Service showed that 20-year-old Ryan Kirker of McMechen, West Virginia, didn't write the letter. Two months earlier, letters sent to Obama, Sen. Roger Wicker and a Mississippi judge tested positive for the poison ricin. The letters addressed to the president and to the senator were intercepted before delivery, but one letter reached Holland. She was unharmed. James Everett Dutschke of Tupelo, Mississippi, pleaded guilty in January 2014 to sending the letters and was sentenced to 25 years in prison. The website Intercept, which first reported on Monday's letter to the White House, said it bore the return address of a man who has sent multiple packages to the executive mansion since 1995, including one that was covered in urine and feces and another that contained miniature bottles of alcohol. □

## Suspect arrested in Arizona shooting that killed 1

**TERRY TANG**  
**P. DAVENPORT**  
Associated Press  
**MESA, Arizona (AP)** — A gunman killed one person and wounded five others Wednesday in a rampage that included a motel shooting, a carjacking and a home invasion and ended with his arrest at a nearby apartment in suburban Phoenix. The suspect was taken into

custody after officers spotted him on an apartment balcony and deployed a stun gun. Numerous officers later led a handcuffed man to a truck parked outside an apartment complex. Police did not immediately release his identity. The incident started with an argument inside a room at a motel and spilled outside, leaving three people wounded, Mesa Detective

Esteban Flores said. The suspect then shot a person at a nearby restaurant and carjacked a gray Honda Accord. Two more people were wounded at separate apartment complexes, including one during a home invasion. The shootings prompted an intense hunt for the suspect as Mesa police searched the trunks of cars, inter-

viewed witnesses. Flores warned people in the neighborhood to remain indoors. Several locations in the area were placed on lockdown amid a heavy law enforcement presence. The Arizona Department of Public Safety sent its special weapons and tactics team to Mesa to assist with the effort, DPS spokesman Bart Graves said. □

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## US fraternity head outlines plan for improving diversity



**Sigma Alpha Epsilon Fraternity Executive Director Blane Ayers, right, and spokesperson Brandon Weghorst are video recorded as they speak to reporters after a news conference Wednesday, March 18, 2015, in Chicago.**

(AP Photo/M. Spencer Green)

**CARLA K. JOHNSON**  
**Associated Press**  
**CHICAGO (AP)** — A fraternity that disbanded its University of Oklahoma chapter after members were caught on video engaging

in a racist chant is taking steps to become more inclusive, including requiring all of its members, nationwide, to go through diversity training, a fraternity executive said Wednesday.

Blaine Ayers, the executive director of Sigma Alpha Epsilon, said at a news conference in Chicago that he was personally disgusted and embarrassed by the video that surfaced last

week. He apologized for the pain it caused and outlined steps the fraternity's administration was taking to "ensure that this never happens again."

Fraternalities are social organizations of male students common on U.S. college campuses, while sororities are group of female students. Their role in campus life has come under scrutiny after several scandals involving the treatment of female students.

The video showed Oklahoma members engaging in a racist chant that referenced lynching and indicated that the chapter would never admit black students.

The fraternity disbanded the chapter and the university expelled two who had taken part.

One student who took part said in a written apology that "the song was taught to us."

Ayers said he had never

heard the chant before.

In addition to having all SAE members undergo a diversity training program, the fraternity has set up a confidential hotline for people to report inappropriate behavior, Ayers said. The fraternity also will appoint a national advisory committee on diversity and inclusion, and will hire a director to oversee those efforts, Ayers said.

The fraternity will review all its 237 chapters, specifically looking for racially offensive behaviors, and will report on its findings.

An internal process dictated by the group's bylaws will review suspended members' standing.

"The chant in the video is ugly. It is demoralizing and absolutely counter to the values of SAE," Ayers said.

Last year, in response to reports of hazing, SAE became the first large national fraternity to eliminate the pledge process. □

## Penn State president: Frat posting of nude pictures very sad

**MARK SCOLFORO**  
**Associated Press**  
**STATE COLLEGE, Pennsylvania (AP)** — A now-suspended Pennsylvania State University fraternity's Facebook posting of photos of nude and partly nude women, some of them asleep or passed out, is sad and offensive and could lead to some students being expelled, the university's president said Wednesday.

The national leaders of Kappa Delta Rho on Tuesday suspended the Penn State chapter for a year over the photo scandal

and said it would be reorganized.

"I can't imagine anybody that's not appalled by the alleged behavior," Eric Barron said in an interview.

Many U.S. universities have been clamping down on fraternities — social organizations for male students — amid a spate of incidents of bad behavior, some of it racially tinged. Sororities, which are for women, have had similar problems.

Fraternalities often have an outsize influence on their campuses, claiming major college donors, state lawmakers, governors, mem-

bers of Congress and U.S. presidents as members. Fraternities have about 372,000 members among 7.7 million male undergraduate college students, according to the North-American Interfraternity Conference.

Police are investigating allegations the fraternity operated a private Facebook page on which members shared frat house pictures of the women nude or partly nude. According to a warrant, the invitation-only Facebook page had 144 active members, including students and alumni.

Police said some of the photos they had seen showed women in "sexual or embarrassing positions." While some of the women photographed appeared to be aware their pictures were being taken, others did not, police said in court documents.

Police have said they have identified at least two photographs that could lead to criminal charges but the investigation is continuing. Barron said the university is working with police to determine the number of offenders and victims and is promising to hold those re-

sponsible accountable for what they did.

"I don't see anything being off the table," Barron said. "This is the kind of behavior that can get someone expelled."

Penn State's flagship campus has about 40,000 undergraduate students and is home to about 50 fraternities, which report about 4,000 members, the university said.

Police were tipped off about the Facebook account on Jan. 18 by a former fraternity member who shared printouts of some of the pictures. □





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**US Financial Front:**

**Fed: No rate hike until job market improves, inflation rises**

**MARTIN CRUTSINGER  
AP Economics Writer**

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — The Federal Reserve signaled Wednesday that it needs to see further improvement in the job market and higher inflation before it raises interest rates from record lows.

At the same time, the Fed at least opened the door to a rate increase later this year by no longer saying it will be "patient" in starting to raise its benchmark rate. The statement the Fed issued after its latest policy meeting appeared to catch investors by surprise in suggesting that a rate increase might be further off than many had assumed. Stock prices surged and bond yields fell. The Dow Jones industrial average, which had been down nearly 100 points before the statement was issued, was up more than 220 points an hour later.

The Fed has kept its key short-term rate near zero since late 2008 to bolster the economy after a devastating financial crisis and recession. In its statement, the Fed noted that the economy, which it previously said was growing solidly, has "moderated somewhat."

Dan Greenhaus, chief strategist at BTIG, said the Fed's statement Wednesday lowered the odds of mid-year rate hike.

"What's important about

this part of the statement is that it clearly says the FOMC is looking for 'further' improvement, meaning the economy and labor market have not yet met whatever criteria necessary to warrant a rate hike," Greenhaus said in a note to clients.

Patrick Maldari, a senior fixed-income specialist at Aberdeen Asset Management, agreed that the Fed appears in no hurry to raise short-term rates.

"They went out of their way to talk about weakness in export growth, weakness in energy prices," Maldari said. At a news conference after the Fed's statement was released, Chair Janet Yellen suggested that the broad pay increases that are normally associated with steady job growth may not occur anytime soon.

Yellen said the Fed would not necessarily wait for wages to rise at a faster pace before it raises its key rate from its current near-zero level.

"We may not see wage growth pick up," she told reporters.

Since December, the Fed had said it could be "patient" in beginning to raise its benchmark rate from near zero. Most analysts said that dropping "patient" from its statement would signal that the Fed was moving toward a rate increase, perhaps as soon as June. A rate hike would



**Federal Reserve Chair Janet Yellen speaks during a news conference at the end of the Federal Open Market Committee meeting in Washington, Wednesday, March 18, 2015. Yellen said the broad pay increases usually associated with job growth may not occur anytime soon.**

(AP Photo/Kevin Wolf)

ripple through the economy and could slow borrowing and possibly squeeze stocks and bonds.

But other economists had said that even if the Fed dropped "patient," any rate increase would reflect the latest data and that the Fed would remain flexible. Key sectors of the economy have been less than robust of late, and inflation remains far below the Fed's target rate.

On Wednesday, the Fed's statement was approved on a 10-0 vote.

In its characterization of the economy, the statement said export growth

has weakened, a trend that partly reflects a stronger dollar that's made U.S. goods costlier overseas.

The statement said that before raising rates, Fed officials want to be "reasonably confident that inflation will move back to its 2 percent objective over the medium term."

On Wednesday, the Fed also downgraded its quarterly economic forecasts. It cut its estimate of growth this year to a range of 2.3 percent to 2.7 percent, from an estimate of 2.6 percent to 2.7 percent in its last forecast issued in December. It was an ac-

knowledge that some key indicators have been weaker than expected in recent months.

The Fed also forecast that the unemployment rate can now fall further without spurring inflation, a sign that it may move slowly in raising rates.

Officials reduced their estimate of the unemployment rate that they think is consistent with a healthy economy to a range of 5 percent to 5.2 percent. That's down from a previous range of 5.2 percent to 5.5 percent. Unemployment now stands at 5.5 percent, the top of the previous range. □



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## Gunmen kill at least 20 at museum in Tunisian capital

**B. BEN BOUAZZA  
PAUL SCHEMM**  
Associated Press

**TUNIS, Tunisia (AP)** — Gunmen opened fire Wednesday at a major museum in Tunisia's capital, killing at least 20 people, mostly foreigners, in one of the worst attacks in this struggling North African democracy that depends heavily on tourism.

Men with assault rifles fired at tourists climbing from buses in front of the National Bardo Museum in central Tunis near the country's parliament, sending dozens sprinting for safety. Two gunmen were killed, but Prime Minister Habib Essid said a manhunt was on for at two or three others.

The identity of the attackers wasn't clear. Twitter accounts associated with the extremist Islamic State group based in Syria and Iraq were described as overjoyed at the attack, urging Tunisians to "follow their brothers," according to Rita Katz of SITE, a U.S.-based organization that monitors militant groups.

About 50 people were wounded in the attack, which began after noon local time, according to Tun-

sian state television. Security forces immediately flooded the area around the museum, and Tunisia's parliament building, where deputies were debating a new anti-terrorism law, was

toward an adjacent building. At least one couple carried two children. According to Essid, the dead include two gunmen, a Tunisian security officer and a Tunisian cleaning

Tunisia has been struggled to keep extremist violence at bay since the overthrow of its dictator in 2011, and the attack was the worst on a tourist site since an al-Qaida car bomb killed 21

Wednesday evening after the siege ended.

"We will be merciless in the defense of our country," he added, describing the attack as an unprecedented assault on Tunisia's economy. He promised increased security in tourist zones and asked residents to be extra alert.

Several other people were reported wounded in the attack, including three Poles and at least two Italians. The Italian Foreign Ministry said 100 other Italians had been taken to a secure location.

The United States, France, the United Arab Emirates and the United Nations denounced the bloodshed. U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry said Washington "condemns in the strongest possible terms today's deadly terrorist attack" and praised Tunisia's "rapid response" to resolve the hostage situation and restore calm. Some of the Italians at the museum were believed to have been passengers aboard the Costa Fascinosa, a cruise liner that had docked in Tunis while on a seven-day tour of the western Mediterranean. □



**Tourists and visitors from the Bardo museum are evacuated in Tunis, Wednesday, March 18, 2015 in Tunis, Tunisia. Gunmen opened fire at a leading museum in Tunisia's capital, killing 20 people including 17 tourists, the Tunisian Prime Minister said. A later raid by security forces left two gunmen and one security officer dead but ended the standoff, Tunisian authorities said.**

(AP Photo/Hassene Dridi)

evacuated. Dozens of tourists scrambled from the museum holding hands or linking arms as Tunisian security forces pointed their guns

woman, while the rest were tourists from Italy, Poland, Germany and Spain. The Spanish Foreign Ministry has confirmed one dead.

people — mostly Germans — in 2002.

"Our nation is in danger," Essid warned in an address on national television

## Iraq Sunni province key to taking Mosul from Islamic State

**VIVIAN SALAMA**  
Associated Press

**BAGHDAD (AP)** — Iraq's Sunni province of Anbar is key to launching the long-awaited operation to retake the city of Mosul from the Islamic State group, the country's defense minister said Wednesday.

Khalid al-Obeidi's remarks reflected the challenges Iraqi forces, backed by U.S.-led coalition airstrikes, face as they try to claw back territory captured by IS militants. They also indicate the operation to take

back Mosul, Iraq's second-largest city, may come later than expected.

At the moment, Iranian-backed Iraqi soldiers and allied Shiite militias are fighting to retake Islamic State-held city of Tikrit, Saddam Hussein's hometown — an offensive that is taking place without U.S. airstrikes.

Al-Obeidi told reporters Wednesday that before Iraqi forces can undertake the battle for Mosul, they must "secure" Anbar so that it cannot serve as

staging ground for militant counterattacks.

Anbar, west of Baghdad, was the first province to fall under Islamic State's control during the group's blitz last year. The province shares a long border which Syria, which has enabled the militants to move fighters and weapons between the two countries virtually unpoliced.

"We must secure Anbar and we are now focused on securing Anbar," al-Obeidi said. He singled out the town of Hit, in An-

bar, saying it is an obvious place from where IS can strike back.

Tikrit is viewed by Iraqi forces as key to opening a strategic corridor that leads to Mosul from one direction. U.S. officials had said that there would likely be a spring offensive to reclaim Mosul, but Iraqi officials have backed away from setting a timeline.

Also Wednesday, a leading international rights group accused Iraq's Shiite militias fighting alongside government forces of car-

rying out the of "deliberate destruction of civilian property" after the town of Amirli, northeast of Baghdad, and the surrounding area was recaptured from IS last year.

Human Rights Watch, in a report focusing on the Shiite militias' role in freeing Amirli, cited evidence of militiamen looting the property of Sunni civilians who had fled the fighting, burning their homes and businesses, and destroying at least two villages. □



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## In major step, Serbia arrests 8 Srebrenica massacre suspects

**Associated Press**

**SREBRENICA, Bosnia-Herzegovina (AP)** —

Machine guns crackled and grenades exploded from dusk to dawn as the Bosnian Serb soldiers slaughtered more than 1,000 men and boys crammed into a warehouse outside Srebrenica.

But when the sun came up, a few dozen were still alive.

So the commander, nicknamed Nedjo the Butcher, called out, offering water to quench their thirst in the sweltering July heat, according to testimony from survivors and witnesses. Slowly, bloodied prisoners began to emerge from under the corpses, among them a boy clutching his grandfather's hand.

"Will they kill us too?" the boy asked.

"No," the old man whispered.

Shots rang out and the two dropped dead, along with dozens of others who had survived the night.

The carnage was among the worst of the 1995 Srebrenica massacre that killed more than 8,000 Bosnian Muslim men and boys in Europe's bloodiest civilian slaughter since the end of World War II. It is the continent's only postwar atrocity that the United Nations calls genocide.

On Wednesday, Serbia arrested eight men accused of taking part in the massacre of some 1,300 people at the warehouse on the outskirts of Srebrenica, a joint team of Serbian and Bosnian prosecutors told The Associated Press.

Chief Serbian War Crimes Prosecutor Vladimir Vuk-

cevic told the AP that all those arrested "are former members of a special brigade of the Bosnian Serb police."

Serbia has already put on trial men who took a group of prisoners away from Srebrenica to be killed, and in 2011 it arrested Ratko Mladic, the warlord who masterminded the slaughter, and sent him to an international criminal court in The Hague, Netherlands. But Wednesday's arrests were Serbia's first attempt to bring to justice the men who got their hands bloody in the Srebrenica massacre 20 years ago this July.

"It is important to stress that this is the first time that our prosecutor's office is dealing with the mass killings of civilians and war prisoners in Srebrenica," said Bruno Vekaric, the lead Serb prosecutor in the case.

He said Serbia was approaching a key moment in confronting its past.

"We have never dealt with a crime of such proportions," said Vekaric, Serbia's deputy war crimes prosecutor. "It is very important for Serbia to take a clear position toward Srebrenica through a court process."

Serbian prosecutors initially arrested seven suspects in pre-dawn raids Wednesday at different locations in Serbia. They then caught the eighth suspect after an hours-long manhunt. The prosecutors said they are trying to locate more suspects who may be hiding in Bosnia, although these men were not targeted in the probe that yielded Wednesday's eight arrests. □

## Treaty integrates South Ossetia into Russia

**Associated Press**

**MOSCOW (AP)** — Russia tightened its control Wednesday over a second breakaway region of Georgia, with Russian President Vladimir Putin and the leader of South Ossetia signing

control over it and a second breakaway Georgian region, Abkhazia, after a brief war against Georgia in 2008. A similar treaty was signed last year with Abkhazia. Both regions depend on subsidies from

control over it and a second breakaway Georgian region, Abkhazia, after a brief war against Georgia in 2008. A similar treaty was signed last year with Abkhazia. Both regions depend on subsidies from



Russian President Vladimir Putin, right, and the leader of Georgia's breakaway province of South Ossetia Leonid Tibilov shake hands during their meeting in the Kremlin in Moscow, Russia, Wednesday, March 18, 2015.

(AP Photo/Maxim Shipenkov, Pool)

a new treaty that calls for nearly full integration.

Georgian President Giorgi Margvelashvili denounced the signing as a "destructive"

move against his nation's sovereignty and territorial integrity and said it would further exacerbate tensions. The United States, the European Union and NATO also strongly condemned the signing.

South Ossetia broke away from Georgia in the early 1990s as the Soviet Union collapsed. Russia effectively gained complete control over it and a second breakaway Georgian region, Abkhazia, after a brief war against Georgia in 2008. A similar treaty was signed last year with Abkhazia. Both regions depend on subsidies from

## Sweden: A third of Russian envoys are spies

**KARL RITTER**

**Associated Press**

**SOLNA, Sweden (AP)** — The Swedish security service SAPO accused Russia on Wednesday of using as many as one-third of its diplomatic staff in the Scandinavian country for clandestine intelligence gathering. Offering an unusual glimpse into the hush-hush world of counter-espionage, SAPO chief analyst Wilhelm Unge described the Russian spies

as "highly educated and often younger than during the Soviet era.

They are driven, goal-oriented and socially competent."

Naming Russia as "the biggest intelligence threat against Sweden, followed by Iran and China," he said SAPO last year stopped several attempts by Russia to obtain Swedish technology for military purposes. He declined to give specif-

ics.

The Russian Embassy didn't answer an email seeking comment to the Swedish charges.

SAPO warned last year that Russia had stepped up its political, economic and military espionage in Sweden — which isn't a NATO member but cooperates closely with the alliance — amid deteriorating relations with the West over the Ukraine crisis. □



## Police cars torched at anti-austerity protest in Germany

**DAVID McHUGH**  
Associated Press  
**FRANKFURT, Germany (AP)**

— Protesters torched police cars and threw stones at officers during anti-austerity protests ahead of the inauguration ceremony for the European Central Bank's new headquarters in Frankfurt, Germany. Police detained 350 people but said those intent on violence were a minority among the thousands who gathered Wednesday to peacefully denounce government

austerity policies. Police said 14 officers suffered minor injuries, several from being hit with stones. A further 80 suffered from contact with some kind of irritating gas or liquid during the confrontations but recovered and later returned to duty. The early morning violence quickly subsided. Some 10,000 people gathered later in the day for a peaceful rally on the Roemerberg, Frankfurt's main square. The ECB ceremony went ahead, with ECB Pres-

ident Mario Draghi saying the new building was "a symbol of what Europe can achieve together." The ECB is the monetary authority for the 19 countries that have joined to share the euro currency. The bulk of demonstrators conducted themselves peacefully, marching in groups, drumming and singing ahead. Some blocked bridges across the Main River or streets in an effort to hinder access to the ECB ceremony.

Leading activists distanced themselves from the violence. Ulrich Wilkens, a left-wing deputy in the regional parliament, said at news conference that he was "both depressed and horrified by what I experienced myself and saw in pictures." The demonstrations were organized by Blockupy, an alliance including trade unions and anti-capitalist groups. Protesters said they were targeting the central bank because of its role in supervising efforts to re-

strain spending and reduce debt in financially troubled countries such as Greece. At the ECB ceremony, Tarek Al-Wazir, economy minister for the Hesse region, denounced the violence. He said the protesters "have no answers... but they have some of the right questions," adding that "austerity can indeed be self-defeating." He and several other German politicians including Vice Chancellor Sigmar Gabriel said the ECB was the wrong target. □

## Greek Prime Minister defiant ahead of bailout meeting

**D. GATOPOULOS**  
**G. MOULSON**  
Associated Press

**ATHENS, Greece (AP)** — Greek Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras insisted Wednesday his government will honor an election promise to end budget austerity — a note of defiance ahead of an expected meeting with the leaders of Germany and France on the country's troubled bailout.

Tsipras spoke in parliament before lawmakers approved an anti-poverty bill, the first piece of legislation from the left-wing government elected on Jan. 25.

Tsipras is expected to meet German Chancellor Angela Merkel, French President Francois Hollande, European Central Bank President Mario Draghi and EU Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker

on the sidelines of an European Union leaders' meeting Thursday.

Greece is struggling to keep up with a punishing spring debt repayment schedule, but has so far failed to convince rescue lenders to release pending bailout funds. The creditors want to first approve a detailed list of reforms.

"Let them keep their threats for where they work, not for this government and, more importantly, not for this people," he said at the end of a 30-minute speech to applause from his party's members.

"To put it plainly: We won't back down from the commitments we have made." The anti-poverty bill — submitted despite objections from rescue creditors — is aimed at providing assistance worth about 200 mil-



**Greek Prime Minister Alexis Tsipras speaks in parliament before the vote of an anti-poverty bill, the first piece of legislation from the left-wing government, in Athens, Wednesday, March 18, 2015. Tsipras insisted Wednesday his government will honor an election promise to end budget austerity — a note of defiance ahead of an expected meeting with the leaders of Germany and France on the country's troubled bailout.**

(AP Photo/Petros Giannakouris)

lion euros (\$212.7 million) to mostly jobless households considered to be in "extreme poverty."

Austerity measures demanded by rescue lenders have focused on reducing debt but in the meantime

deepened Greece's recession, causing mass unemployment and financial hardship. □

## UK government offers giveaways in budget ahead of election

**LONDON (AP)** — Without ditching its austerity prescription for the U.K. economy, the Conservative-led government announced a series of mini-giveaways Wednesday that it hopes will bear dividends at what is expected to be the tightest general election in decades.

In his final budget statement ahead of the May 7 election, Treasury chief George Osborne focused his largesse on wannabe homebuyers, pensioners, drivers and frequenters of

the British pub. The cost of the measures, budget figures showed, was more than offset by other steps such as reducing tax avoidance and raising a levy on banks.

And looking ahead, the austerity mantra that has been the centerpiece of the government's economic strategy since it was formed five years ago, looks set to remain — at least if the Conservative Party stays in power. Documents accompanying the budget indicate tough

controls over spending for at least another four years, though they do suggest that austerity will conclude at the end of the decade. "The sun is starting to shine and we are fixing the roof," Osborne told a packed House of Commons.

When Osborne took control of Britain's economic levers in 2010, he insisted that sorting out public finances was the primary objective. Following the global financial crisis of 2007-8, the U.K. economy sank into its deepest reces-

sion since World War II and a number of the country's largest financial institutions, such as Lloyds Bank and the Royal Bank of Scotland, required taxpayer help to stay afloat.

Government finances took a big dent and Osborne's solution, adopted by the junior partner in the governing coalition, the Liberal Democrats, was deep spending cuts and tax increases.

For the main opposition Labour Party, Osborne's strategy hobbled the U.K. econ-

omy for years and actually made the budget situation worse. It argues that too much of the burden of fixing the public finances was placed on the least well-off in society and that it worsened living standards for many.

"It's a recovery for the few from a government of the few," said Ed Miliband, Labour's leader. "For the first time since the 1920s, people are earning less at the end of a government than they were at the beginning." □





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# Talks wrap up as Cuba's leader blasts US over Venezuela

**MICHAEL WEISSENSTEIN**  
Associated Press

**HAVANA (AP)** — A third round of negotiations over the restoration of full diplomatic relations ended after a day of talks, Cuban and U.S. officials said. Cuban President Raul Castro later delivered a toughly worded attack on the United States for levying a new round of sanctions on his country's closest ally, Venezuela.

Neither Cuba nor the U.S. provided details on whether progress was made toward a deal on reopening embassies in Washington and Havana.

The two countries have been trying to strike an agreement on embassies before presidents Barack Obama and Raul Castro attend the Summit of the Americas in Panama on April 10-11.

Cuba's Ministry of Foreign Relations said the talks took place "in a professional atmosphere" and "the two delegations agreed to maintain communication in the future as part of this process."

Jeff Rathke, a U.S. State Department spokesman, said that "the discussion was positive and constructive and was held in an atmosphere of mutual respect."

But Castro later delivered a searing defense of Venezuela at an emergency meeting of leftist Latin American governments called in response to U.S. sanctions levied on seven Venezuelan officials last week. In announcing the move, the U.S. declared Venezuela a threat to U.S. national security.

Washington has asserted that the Venezuelan sanctions wouldn't affect its negotiations with Cuba, but

Castro made clear in Caracas that he sees the two issues as linked.

He described Obama's declaration of detente

with Cuba as a recognition that a U.S. policy of hostility to Latin American socialism had failed.

"Nonetheless, the spokes-

men of his government have made clear that the objective remains, only the methods have changed," Castro said. "The U.S. must

understand once and for all that it's impossible to seduce Cuba or intimidate Venezuela."

Neither Cuba nor the U.S. said Tuesday whether they had resolved any of the obstacles to reopening embassies, which include Cuba's continuing presence on the U.S. list of state sponsors of terrorism and Cuba's objections to U.S. diplomatic contact with dissidents on the island.

The secretive atmosphere was a striking contrast to previous discussions about U.S.-Cuban detente.

After two earlier meetings, U.S. and Cuban diplomats engaged in wide-ranging exchanges with reporters from both nations that were broadcast on Cuban state television.

Cuban state media dedicated virtually no coverage to Monday's talks, focusing instead on statements of support for Venezuela. □



Cuba's President Raul Castro arrives to Miraflores presidential palace for an emergency ALBA meeting in Caracas, Venezuela. Castro delivered a toughly worded attack on the United States this week for levying a new round of sanctions on his country's closest ally, Venezuela.

(AP Photo/Ariana Cubillos)

## Venezuela:

# High court releases 4 government opponents

**FABIOLA SANCHEZ**  
Associated Press

**CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)**

— Four Venezuelans arrested during a crackdown on anti-government protests last year have been released from jail following widespread international condemnation and the recent suicide of an imprisoned government opponent.

Of the four released, the most prominent is Christian Holdack, who is standing trial alongside the nation's most-prominent anti-government prisoner, Leopoldo Lopez, on charges they perpetrated violence at a demonstration in February

2013.

The Supreme Court late Tuesday granted Holdack bail in response to his lawyers' plea that he was suffering from depression and was at risk of committing suicide if he remained locked up.

In recent days, Holdack was reported to have initiated a hunger strike to draw attention to his plight. Tuesday night, the 34-year-old walked out of the police station in eastern Caracas where he had been held for the past year. He was greeted by Lopez's wife, Lilian Tintori, and a small group of former cellmates who were released

previously.

Holdack, an amateur photographer, was filming protesters in Caracas when he was detained last year, according to his wife.

The protest kicked off a wave of unrest against Venezuela's socialist government in which at least 43 people from both sides of the conflict died and 3,300 people were detained, although the vast majority of those were released long ago.

His release comes less than a week after a jailed government opponent, Rodolfo Gonzalez, committed suicide, drawing attention to what rights groups say

are harsh prison conditions for the 40-plus opposition members still in custody

Amnesty International this week called for Holdack to be released on humanitarian grounds, repeating his lawyers' assertions that he was unfairly imprisoned and had been beaten while in custody.

As a condition of his release, Holdack is required to report before the court every eight days and is banned from leaving the country.

Three lesser-known government opponents also were released in the past two days, Congressman Miguel Pizarro said Wednesday. □



## Venezuela: Smugglers defy harsh crackdown drawn by huge profits

JACOBO GARCIA

Associated Press

SAN CRISTOBAL, Venezuela

(AP) — In a warehouse at the edge of this city near Venezuela's western border, the load of valuable contraband sits in boxes ready to be shuttled the few miles (kilometers) into Colombia where it will fetch an impressive profit. This impending shipment is a household staple: rice. The next one could be tomato sauce, toothpaste, flour or shaving blades — whatever the band of smugglers is able to buy cheaply at Venezuela's controlled prices and then ship out for resale.

"Moving a shipment of milk is more profitable than cocaine," according to the smuggler, a man in his 30s who said he is a top leader in a network of some 150 people. He declined to be named out of fear of arrest. While Venezuela struggles to right its listing economy and urban shoppers form long lines around stores in search of basic goods, the smuggling business is booming. A kilogram of rice sold in Caracas at the Fair Price Regulator's mandated price of 26 bolivars, the equivalent of 10 U.S. cents at the widely-used black market rate, can garner 15 times that amount in Colombia. Toothpaste goes for 27 times as much. A gallon of gasoline costs less than a penny in Venezuela compared to as much as \$3 across the border.

The government complains the smuggling of between 50,000 and 100,000 barrels per day of gasoline alone represents losses of more than \$3 billion a year, or about 1.5 percent of GDP if taken into account what the same volume costs at international prices.

"It's the problem we have for living in the cheapest country in the world," Jose Gregorio Vielma Mora, the pro-government governor of Tachira state, told The Associated Press. "At least 30 percent of the food Venezuela produces leaves the country illegally."

Venezuela established

price controls a decade ago under the socialist administration of President Hugo Chavez in order to help the poor. But the country's oil-dependent economy has been battered by mismanagement and the crash in global

finger-print scanners to ration the amount of any single product shoppers can buy.

In the last six months, authorities have seized some 12,000 tons of smuggled products ranging from fertilizer to animal feed and

Cristobal. He records the payments in a simple spiral notebook. On the 400-mile (650-kilometer) journey, he pays a total of about 80,000 bolivars, or around \$300: 2,000 bolivars to National Guard troops on each side of Barinas, the hometown



In this March, 2015 photo, Venezuelan Bolivarian National Guard officers handle seized merchandise that was being smuggled as others stand guard during a mission to stem the flow of contraband in San Antonio, Venezuela. President Nicolas Maduro almost daily blames the smuggling as a tool used by his enemies and business elites fighting an economic war to oust his socialist government from power.

(AP Photo/Eliecer Mantilla)

crude prices, creating a cash shortage that has made it difficult to buy imported goods.

With the value of the Bolivar tanking, hard currency itself has become the country's most sought-after commodity and the profits to be found in smuggling are proving irresistible. President Nicolas Maduro has condemned smuggling as a weapon used in an "economic war" waged by the United States and political opponents intent on unseating him.

The government has intensified its fight against the flow of contraband, creating a special taskforce to bring control to the porous 1,400-mile (2,200 kilometers) border with Colombia. Steps include closing the border at night, deploying more troops and ramping up jail sentences for anyone caught smuggling. The government also has begun rolling out some 20,000

mayonnaise, according to Gen. Efrain Velasco, Venezuela's top army officer along the border.

"It's enough to feed the 1.7 million people of Tachira for 15 days," he said.

But the trade continues at a brisk pace, in part due to systemic corruption among Venezuela's poorly-paid security forces.

Under emergency rules put in place last year, transporting food, especially to cities along the border, is akin to moving precious cargo. Smugglers easily avoid detection by falsifying shipping documents, understating the true size of their haul or concealing its origin.

The smuggler in San Cristobal describes how an advance car known as "La Mosca," or the fly, travels a few minutes ahead of the cargo, doling out bribes at each of 20 military checkpoints along the highway linking the capital to San

of late President Chavez; another 7,000 in Capitanaje; and 10,000 entering Tachira state.

The bulk of what's left is handed over in San Antonio, the border town where the stakes are higher. The area is one of the most dangerous in Latin America, a haven for drug traffickers, leftist rebels and criminal gangs that have arisen during Colombia's half-century civil conflict. Unlike busier border crossings, where authorities long have tolerated poor residents hiding goods on the back of motorcycles, this no-man's land is said to be controlled by paramilitary gangs and thus unsafe for small-time smugglers.

A few blocks before the customs house, a bumpy, dirt trail heads off the road into a green scrubland. From time to time, a sputtering motor of a clandestine vehicle breaks an otherwise complete silence. □

## CARIBBEAN News Briefs

### Court hears suit on anti-gay laws of two nations

KINGSTON, Jamaica (AP)

— A Jamaican gay rights activist is challenging immigration laws that bar homosexuals from entering two Caribbean countries. Maurice Tomlinson, a legal adviser with New York-based AIDS-Free World, hopes the Caribbean Court of Justice will strike down immigration rules barring entry to homosexuals even though authorities in both countries say the acts go unenforced. The lawsuit against Belize and Trinidad and Tobago is being heard by the Trinidad and Tobago-based court on Wednesday. It was not clear when the court might rule. The two countries also have anti-sodomy laws and Trinidad's list of banned immigrants includes "feeble-minded persons," prostitutes and alcoholics.

### Official: No U.S. citizens held in Dominican raid

SANTO DOMINGO, Dominican Republic (AP)

— U.S. authorities took part in a sex trafficking raid in the Dominican Republic but authorities now say no Americans were detained as police initially reported. A U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement official says the agency worked with Dominican authorities in the operation March 11 near the town of Sosua. Senior Latin America Advisor Barbara Gonzalez says 29 women and girls who were brought to a home to take part in a "sex party" were rescued. Twenty of them were between 14 and 17. Authorities arrested two women and five men suspected of arranging the party. Gonzalez said Wednesday that all are in custody and face up to 15 years in prison. Sosua police had said in announcing the raid that 16 U.S. citizens were detained for questioning. □





## Aruba Celebrates National Anthem and Flag Day!



**ORANJESTAD** - On Wednesday, March 18th, Aruba's National Anthem and Flag Day was celebrated across the island, first and foremost with the annual Government Protocol Ceremony held in front of the Parliament Building in Oranjestad. A strong sense of pride is dis-

played each year as Arubans celebrate this most historic and special day. The Flag of Aruba was proudly adopted and made official on March 18th 1976, along with the official anthem "Aruba Dushi Tera," composed by Padu del Caribe, Hubert Booi and Rufo Wever.

Each year this official national holiday in Aruba features many sporting events and games throughout the island for kids and adults. As is customary, a majestic and colorful folkloric production was also held in relation to the National Anthem and Flag Day at Plaza Betico Croes in Oranjestad. □



# Shoco Hikers Celebrate Aruba National Anthem and Flag Day!



**ORANJESTAD** – Shoco Hiking Aruba is a group that decided more than two years ago to observe Aruba's most important celebrations by experiencing Aruba's beauty and bounty through hiking.

They set a challenge to hike from Seroe Colorado to the California Lighthouse

in connection with Dia di Betico and wanted to dedicate this hike to the 100th Anniversary of the California Lighthouse.

This year the group dedicated this to challenge to Aruba National Anthem and Flag Day!

With lots of courage and persistence they left Se-

roe Colorado at 6:30am en route to Grapefield, in the direction of the windmill farm, and then took a break at Boca Prins.

Later the group went to Dos Playa and then the Natural Pool.

In the beginning they were actually distracted by all of the beauty that surrounded them! It is a difficult route to hike, climbing up and back down over all of the rough, bush-covered hills, to eventually reach the Natural Pool and Bush-iribana.

When they reached their goal and arrived at the California Lighthouse the sun was shining in their faces so bright!

There were four hikers that made their goal by reaching the Natural Bridge (20Km).

Here the group took a break, drank and ate something. The remaining nine hikers continued for the final leg of their journey which was to reach the California Lighthouse.

In total, the group hiked 35 km in about nine hours.

The Shoco Hiking Group reached its goal dedicated to California Lighthouse's 100 years, a landmark of inspiration for everyone in the group.

The theme of The Shoco Hiking Group is 'Never ever give up': they keep their fighting spirit high!

The Shoco Hiking Group includes Marciano, Lisette, Anki, Shwana, Anita, Enrita, Mike, Maikito, Rudy, Teresa, Magaret, Judith, and others who were invited! □



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### At Nos Clubhuis:

## Great Family from Ohio Knows What Having Fun is All About



**PALM BEACH** - Good food, great whisky and above all, wonderful family vibes, that is what having fun is all about for this nice family from Ohio. You can find them every evening at Nos Clubhuis, the restaurant and bar that are hiding on top of Hadicurari Restaurant at MooMba. Just climb up the stairs and you know what I am talking about. The family has been coming to Aruba for 20 years now, so they are like locals. They love fresh fish, so they are at the right spot at Nos Clubhuis, where the catch of the day is brought in from the pier across, still dripping seawater. The wahoo is one of their favorites. If you want to meet them, come to Nos Clubhuis one of these days: they are staying one month, so you can't miss. □



## Loyal Guests Joseph and Theresa Hudson Honored by ATA



**EAGLE BEACH** - Recently the Aruba Tourism Authority had the great pleasure of honoring a very nice couple who are loyal and friendly visitors of Aruba, as Ambassadors of Goodwill, at the La Cabana Beach Resort. The symbolic hon-

orary title is presented in the name of the Minister of Tourism as a token of appreciation to guests who visit Aruba for 20-or-more consecutive years. The honorees were Mr. Joseph and Mrs. Theresa Hudson from Allentown,

Pennsylvania. Joseph and Theresa are loyal members of La Cabana, and they love Aruba for the friendly people, the weather, beaches, restaurants and they always say that Aruba is truly 'One Happy Island.' The certifi-



cate was presented by Mr. Ernest Giel representing the Aruba Tourism Authority together with friends Joseph

and Carol Lavelle and Mrs. Charine Charles representing the La Cabana Beach Resort. □

## Catch your own dinner with Driftwood!

**Motto at Driftwood Restaurant: "from the pier to your plate!"**



**ORANJESTAD** - The downtown marina is home of Driftwood Fishing Charters, the successful fisherman of the established seafood restaurant Driftwood in Oranjestad. Driftwood owner Herby

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**Driftwood Restaurant.** This authentic Aruban seafood restaurant is located in characteristic downtown Oranjestad. Their

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Rory McIlroy, of Northern Ireland, acknowledges fans while walking to the ninth tee during the pro-am at the Arnold Palmer Invitational golf tournament in Orlando, Fla., Wednesday, March 18, 2015. Associated Press

### Rory McIlroy rules on a PGA Tour where talent runs deep

DOUG FERGUSON  
AP Golf Writer

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP) — The PGA Tour hasn't seen this kind of parity in two decades.

Jordan Spieth won the Valspar Championship last week at Innisbrook to become the 18th winner in 18 tournaments this season. The last time the PGA Tour went this deep before it had a multiple winner was in 1994 with Nick Price, whose second win came at Colonial in the 21st event of the season.

Price went on to win six times that year, including consecutive majors at the British Open and PGA Championship, and finally got to a No. 1 ranking.

Rory McIlroy already is there, and it's hard to imagine anyone replacing him this year.

That won't make it any easier for Boy Wonder to pile up victories.

Continued on page 22



### Vonn wins downhill for 18th globe

Lindsey Vonn, of the United States, celebrates in the finish area after winning the alpine ski, women's World Cup downhill's race, at the World Cup finals in Meribel, France, Wednesday, March 18, 2015. Associated Press  
Page 19



# Dallas Seavey wins Iditarod in year marked by uncertainty

**MARK THIESSEN**  
**Associated Press**

**NOME, Alaska (AP)** — If ever there was uncertainty about the outcome of the world's most famous sled dog race, it was this year. Warm weather and a lack of snow in much of Alaska spurred organizers of the Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race to forge an untested route, utilizing the state's extensive system of frozen rivers. Would this make the race faster or easier? Would it benefit mushers more accustomed to racing on ice? Or would warm temperatures create new hazards on the rivers? Dallas Seavey proved the short answer to all of those questions was no Wednesday as he won his third Iditarod in four years. He crossed the finish line in the Bering Sea coastal town of Nome at 4:13 a.m. "Obviously going into this race, the big hubbub was all about the new trail, right?" Seavey told a packed convention hall.

The concerns were over the "warm, warm, warm winter" and conditions on the Yukon River, he said. In fact, a snowmobile sank on thin ice on part of the route mushers were about to take. Some were considering buying rain gear. But then winter came back to Alaska, and the trails became much more like one would expect for the Iditarod. "We saw a lot of 40-, 50-below zero, snow," Seavey said. "This was a very tough race. It was not the easy run that a lot of people had anticipated for the Yukon River." Dallas Seavey completed the 979-mile route from Fairbanks in eight days, 8 hours, 13 minutes and 6 seconds. That's about five hours longer than the record he set in winning the 2014 race. His father, Mitch, finished in second place Wednesday about four hours later, followed by Aaron Burmeister. Behind them en route



**Dallas Seavey, the 2015 Iditarod Trail Sled Dog champion poses with his lead dogs Reef, left, and Hero in Nome, Alaska on Wednesday, March 18, 2015.**

to Nome were Jessie Royer and Aliy Zirkle. Dallas Seavey said this year's route brought a lot of different mushing styles. "I think going into this race, we all knew the winner would be who could maximize this new trail and take advantage of that," he said. He used two different styles: First, he was more aggressive than usual early on, running near the front of the pack. Then, he let loose what he calls the "monster," a team that can finish strong, building speed at the end. After his victory, Dallas Seavey petted and hugged his dogs.

"I really do believe this is one of the best teams there's ever been," he told reporters and fans at a finish-line ceremony that was live-streamed online. "That may just be overly proud pet parent talking, but they did just win the Iditarod, so that's some credibility." He was presented with \$70,000 — \$19,600 more than last year — and the keys to a new pickup truck. Dallas Seavey became the race's youngest champion in 2012 at age 25. He also won last year in a race he figures he should have placed third in. A freak storm blew out the leaders, and he came

**Associated Press** across the finish line and didn't realize he'd won until a cameraman told him. His father is a two-time champion. Mitch Seavey won in 2004, and a year after Dallas became the race's youngest winner, Mitch became the oldest at 53. A total of 78 mushers began this year's race March 9 in Fairbanks. Eight racers later scratched, and one was disqualified. Two dogs have died this year, including one that was hit by a car after getting loose during the ceremonial start. The other dog was on four-time champion Lance Mackey's team. □



**Andy Murray, of Great Britain, returns to Adrian Mannarino, of France, during their match at the BNP Paribas Open tennis tournament, Wednesday, March 18, 2015, in Indian Wells, Calif.**

**BETH HARRIS**  
**AP Sports Writer**

**INDIAN WELLS, Calif. (AP)** — Andy Murray defeated Adrian Mannarino 6-3, 6-3 to reach the quarterfinals of the BNP Paribas Open

on Wednesday, earning his 496th career match victory. Murray tied countryman Tim Henman's record as Britain's most successful player in the Open era.

## Murray reaches QFs at Indian Wells; Nishikori loses

Murray set up a quarterfinal against 12th-seeded Feliciano Lopez, who upset No. 5 seed Kei Nishikori, 6-4, 7-6 (2). "I really had one bad game at 5-4," Nishikori said. "Until then I was playing better. I was dominating the strokes. He was hitting good serves, but I had all the chances." A quartet for former Indian Wells winners was in action later. They are three-time champions Novak Djokovic and Rafael Nadal, four-time winner Roger Federer, and two-time winner Serena Williams, who is back in the desert for the first time after ending her 14-year boycott.

Williams brings a 14-match winning streak into her quarterfinal against Timea Bacsinszky, who has won 15 matches in a row. Bacsinszky's 21-2 match record leads the WTA Tour this year. Murray broke Mannarino twice in the second set and closed it out on his second match point when Mannarino netted a backhand. Murray remains on track for a potential semifinal against Djokovic, who beat the Brit in the Australian Open final in January. "I made it difficult for my opponents in all of my matches. That's important," Murray said. "I haven't given

up too many free points. I have been hitting the ball quite heavy from the back of the court, so it's not been easy for my opponents to attack, which has been good." Mannarino hadn't dropped a set in three previous matches here. The Frenchman took out 19th-seeded Fabio Fognini and No. 14 Ernests Gulbis before getting stopped by Murray in 1 1/2 hours. Lopez reached the quarterfinals at Indian Wells for the first time in 13 tries, needing just two sets to beat Nishikori after being stretched to three in his first two matches. □



# Vonn wins World Cup downhill title ahead of Fenninger

**JEROME PUGMIRE**

**AP Sports Writer**

**MERIBEL, France (AP)** —

Lindsey Vonn won the World Cup downhill title for the seventh time after winning the last race in the discipline on Wednesday at the season-ending finals.

Her seven downhill titles and her 18th crystal globe are both records for women.

"It's incredible after being out with two knee operations. It is just amazing to be sitting where I am today," the American said. "I'm so proud and happy, and I really have to thank the people that supported me and got me back to where I am now."

Vonn finished 0.24 seconds ahead of Elisabeth Goergl and 0.30 ahead of Nicole Hosp.

Austrian racer Anna Fenninger finished second in the downhill standings. She trailed Vonn by 35 points heading into the race, and failed to make an impact on the Roc de Fer course, finishing nearly one second behind Vonn in eighth place.

Vonn, who raced immedi-



**Lindsey Vonn, of the United States, left, and Kjetil Jansrud, of Norway, hold the alpine ski, women's and men's World Cup downhill's discipline trophies, at the World Cup finals in Meribel, France, Wednesday, March 18, 2015.**

ately after her, increased her speed on the bottom section to clinch a 66th career race win. She is the all-time leader in wins.

Some fans near the finish held up banners saying "Congrats Lindsey" as she raised her poles.

Vonn finished the downhill season with 502 points, putting her 103 ahead of Fenninger. Tina Maze of Slove-

nia was third with 356. In the race for the women's overall World Cup title, Fenninger holds a 12-point lead over Maze.

Maze gained some ground on Fenninger by finishing fourth on Wednesday.

Vonn, a four-time overall World Cup champion, is out of contention for the overall title this season.

Vonn blew out her right

knee in a super-G at the 2013 world championships in Schladming, Austria. She hurt her knee again in her comeback, keeping her out of last year's Sochi Olympics.

She went nearly two years without a victory before winning a downhill in Lake Louise, Canada, in December. The following month, she overtook Austrian great

**Associated Press**

Annemarie Moser-Proell's 35-year-old record of 62 World Cup victories.

"I'm incredibly thankful to be holding another downhill title," Vonn said. "It's been a long two years coming back from my injuries."

Vonn will battle with Fenninger again on Thursday when the super-G title will be decided. Vonn is eight points ahead of Fenninger. "Tomorrow is a chance for another globe. It's going to be tough because Anna's skiing really well, and it's going to be soft conditions like it was today," Vonn said. "But something about this track suits me. I'll give my all, as I always do."

Fenninger has been in great form, winning gold medals in giant slalom and super-G at the world championships last month, and placing second in downhill behind Maze, who finished second to Fenninger in super-G at the worlds.

Also, Kjetil Jansrud clinched the men's downhill title by winning the last race, too. The Norwegian finished 94 points ahead of Hannes Reichelt of Austria. □

## NBA Capsules

### Last-place Knicks surprise defending champion Spurs

**The Associated Press**

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Alexey Shved scored 21 points and made the key defensive play in overtime as the New York Knicks beat the San Antonio Spurs 104-100 in the NBA on Tuesday.

Rookie Langston Galloway had a career-high 22 points for the Knicks, who held the Spurs to just one basket in overtime to surprise the defending NBA champions. Lou Amundson finished with 12 points and a career-high 17 rebounds while playing tough against Tim Duncan. Tony Parker scored 21 points for the Spurs and made their only basket in OT, 16 seconds into the period. They managed just two free throws from there in losing for the second time in nine games.

**PELICANS 85, BUCKS 84**

**NEW ORLEANS (AP)** — An-

thony Davis had 20 points and 12 rebounds as the Pelicans held off Milwaukee.

Davis, who shoots around 55 percent, hit only 6 of 18 shots, but made 8 of 9 free throws and hit a clutch 15-footer that gave New Orleans an 85-82 lead with 1:07 left.

Ilyasova and Giannis Antetokounmpo each scored 15 for Milwaukee, while Jerryd Bayless and John Henson each scored 14.

Quincy Pondexter hit five 3-pointers and finished with 18 points for New Orleans, while Omer Asik had 16 points and 11 rebounds.

**CLIPPERS 99, HORNETS 92**

**LOS ANGELES (AP)** — J.J. Redick scored 23 points and Chris Paul had 20 points and eight assists as the Clippers beat the Hornets.



**New York Knicks' Langston Galloway (2) defends San Antonio Spurs' Tony Parker (9) during the overtime period of an NBA basketball game Tuesday, March 17, 2015, in New York. The Knicks won the game 104-100.**

**Associated Press**

The Clippers led 63-41 with 10 minutes left in the third quarter. Charlotte rallied within a point in the final period.

Blake Griffin had 19 points

and 11 rebounds for the Clippers, who were coming off back-to-back losses to Dallas and Houston. DeAndre Jordan finished with 12 points and 14 boards.

Al Jefferson led Charlotte with 21 points and former Clipper Mo Williams had 18 points and eight assists.

**ROCKETS 107, MAGIC 94**

**HOUSTON (AP)** — Donatas Motiejunas scored 23 points and the Rockets used a big run late in the fourth quarter to break open a close game and beat the Magic. A driving layup by Victor Oladipo got the Magic within two points with about five minutes left before the Rockets used a 13-0 run, powered by three 3-pointers, to make it 107-92 with less than a minute remaining.

Harden, who is second in the NBA in scoring, went 4 for 14, but made eight free throws to finish with 17 points.

Oladipo's 29 points led the Magic, who have dropped four in a row. □



# Jeter arrives in Japan for charity baseball game

**JIM ARMSTRONG**  
AP Sports Writer

**TOKYO (AP)** — Former major league teammates Derek Jeter and Hideki Matsui will take part in a charity baseball game to support survivors of the 2011 earthquake and tsunami in Japan — and Jeter repeated a desire to own a team someday.

Participating in the game at Tokyo Dome on Sunday will be a group of student baseball players from the Tohoku region that was devastated by the 2011 disaster that killed more than 15,000 people. Profits will go toward helping children in the region.

Jeter and Matsui will also put on a baseball clinic and take part in a home run derby. On Saturday, the pair will throw out the ceremonial first pitches at a preseason exhibition at Tokyo Dome between



Former NY Yankees Derek Jeter, left, and Hideki Matsui pose for photographers during a press conference on a charity baseball game in Tokyo, Wednesday, March 18, 2015.

Associated Press

Matsui's old club, the Yomiuri Giants, and the Nippon Ham Fighters.

Jeter, who retired from Major League Baseball last year after 20 years, said he's looking forward to a

break from the game and reiterated a desire to become an owner.

"I need to get away from (baseball) for a little while, I've been doing it professionally for 23 years," Jeter

said. "At this moment, I'm not thinking about getting back in the game. My ultimate dream is to one day own a team, but that's in the future."

Recalling his own experiences after the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks in New York, Jeter said he was hoping to help children in Japan who are still dealing with the aftermath of the disaster. While the earthquake and tsunami struck four years ago, many of the participants from the area are still coping with the loss of family and friends and living in temporary housing. "The kids will never forget what happened," Jeter said. "But if they can come out and have fun and enjoy themselves through the sport of baseball, that's what we're trying to do here."

Matsui, the 2009 World Series Most Valuable Player,

said Jeter's presence will go a long way.

"Having Jeter here is a wonderful thing," Matsui said. "I'm happy, and the kids taking part in this event will be thrilled. We hope they have a great time, and return to Tohoku with some great memories."

Matsui was recently rehired by the New York Yankees as a special adviser to general manager Brian Cashman, and Jeter said his former teammate will have much to offer.

"Not only was he successful here in Japan, one of the biggest stars in the country, he came over the United States and did the exact same thing," Jeter said. "There aren't too many players that can say that ... so he has a lot of knowledge, and will be able to share that with as many people as he wants to do." □

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**NHL Capsules**

# Blackhawks hand slumping Islanders fourth straight loss

**The Associated Press**  
**CHICAGO (AP)** — Jonathan Toews scored twice and assisted on both of Marian Hossa's goals to lead the Chicago Blackhawks past the slumping New York Islanders 4-1 on Tuesday night.

Toews recorded his first four-point game this season as the Blackhawks won their third straight and improved to 7-1-1 since Feb. 24 when leading scorer Patrick Kane broke his collarbone against Florida. New York's Nikolay Kulemin scored at 5:29 of third period to end Corey Crawford's shutout bid, but the Islanders lost their season-worst fourth straight.

Although Crawford made 38 saves, he wasn't tested heavily by the goal-starved Islanders. New York has scored only one goal in each of its four consecutive losses.

The Islanders are five points behind the Atlantic Division-leading New York Rangers, who have played four fewer games. Michal Neuvirth made 26 saves in place of injured No. 1 goalie Jaroslav Halak.

**CANADIENS 3, PANTHERS 2**  
**SUNRISE, Florida (AP)** — P.K. Subban scored the last of Montreal's three second-period goals as the Canadiens held on to beat Florida.

Jacob De La Rose had a goal and an assist, and Alexei Emelin also scored for the Canadiens. Dustin Tokarski made 41 saves in his first start in six games and earned his second win in seven starts.

Brandon Pirri and Alexander Barkov scored for the Panthers. Dan Ellis stopped 22 shots in his sixth straight start.

The Canadiens won for just the third time in nine games, but they remain atop the Atlantic Division with 95 points.

The Panthers lost their second straight after winning three consecutively.

**DEVILS 2, PENGUINS 0**  
**NEWARK, New Jersey (AP)**

— Cory Schneider made 35 saves in earning his fifth shutout of the season, and New Jersey sent Pittsburgh to its third straight loss.

Jacob Josefson scored in the second period for the Devils, who are 9-3-2 in their last 14 games to keep their faint playoff hopes alive. Adam Henrique iced the game with an empty-net goal with 49 seconds to go. The shutout loss was the second in three games for the Penguins, who have scored only one goal in that span. This was their second straight game without star forward Evgeni Malkin, who has a lower-body injury. Sidney Crosby missed the first game in that stretch after being unable to play following warmups. Pittsburgh's Thomas Greiss made 17 saves.

**SABRES 2, BRUINS 1, SO**  
**BOSTON (AP)** — Anders Lindback made seven of his 44 saves in overtime, then shut out Boston for three rounds of the shootout as Buffalo rallied to win.

Lindback stopped Torey Krug on Boston's last chance in the shootout, clinching his first victory as a starter this season. Lindback was 0-10-2 as a starter with Dallas and the Sabres, who acquired him on Feb. 11. Rasmus Ristolainen scored Buffalo's only goal early in the third period to tie it, and the Sabres earned their first victory over Boston this season. Tyler Ennis had the only goal in the shootout, putting a wrist shot under the crossbar that was confirmed after the officials gathered to discuss it. Niklas Svedberg had 23 saves for Boston. Loui Eriksson scored for Boston 9:55 into the game.

**SENATORS 2, HURRICANES 1, OT**  
**RALEIGH, North Carolina (AP)** — Mark Stone scored the winning goal 4:46 into overtime, and Andrew Hammond became the second goalie in NHL history to allow two goals or fewer in each of his first 12 starts as Ottawa edged

Hurricanes. Hammond (11-0-1) matched the record set by Boston's Frank Brimsek, who also went 12 consecutive games in 1938 without giving up more than two goals.

Hammond made 35 saves to outduel Carolina's Anton Khudobin, who stopped 31 shots but lost for the first time in six career appearances against Ottawa.

Elias Lindholm gave Carolina a 1-0 lead in the first period with his 15th goal. Patrick Wiercioch tied it in the second for Ottawa with his second.

The Senators are 12-1-1 since a 6-3 home loss to the Hurricanes on Feb. 16.

**WILD 3, PREDATORS 2, OT**  
**NASHVILLE, Tennessee (AP)**

— Matt Dumba scored 22 seconds into overtime to give Minnesota a win over Nashville.

Charlie Coyle had the other two goals for Minnesota, which won for the third time in four games.

Roman Josi scored both goals for the Predators, who have lost three of four and five straight at home. Just after overtime began, Zach Parise left a drop pass for Dumba at the top of the right circle, where he ripped a slap shot past goalie Pekka Rinne.

**JETS 5, SHARKS 2**  
**WINNIPEG, Manitoba (AP)**

— Blake Wheeler scored two goals and added an assist to help Winnipeg top San Jose.

The Jets built a 3-0 lead in the first period on goals by Adam Lowry, Mark Scheifele and Andrew Ladd. Wheeler scored his first of the game in the second period and another in the third.

Scheifele and Drew Stafford had a pair of assists, and Ladd also had an assist for Winnipeg (35-23-12), which began a three-game homestand.

Joe Pavelski scored twice and Joe Thornton assisted on both for the Sharks (34-28-8), who started a seven-game road trip. □



Chicago Blackhawks right wing Marian Hossa (81) watches his shot score on New York Islanders goalie Michal Neuvirth (30) and Islanders Brian Strait watch during the second period of an NHL hockey game Tuesday, March 17, 2015, in Chicago.

Associated Press



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 SAT 2:05 | 4:35 | 7:05 | 9:35 | 12:05  
 SUN & HOL 2:05 | 4:35 | 7:05 | 9:35

NEW THIS WEEK!

LILY JAMES | CATE BLANCHETT



**CINDERELLA**

WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES

MON-THURS 4:00 | 6:25 | 7:40 | 8:55  
 FRI 4:00 | 6:25 | 7:40 | 8:55 | 11:25  
 SAT 2:15 | 4:00 | 6:25 | 7:40 | 8:55 | 11:25  
 SUN & HOL 2:15 | 4:00 | 6:25 | 7:40 | 8:55

SPANISH

MON-THURS 5:10  
 FRI 5:10 | 10:10  
 SAT 2:40 | 5:10 | 10:10  
 SUN & HOL 2:40 | 5:10

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LIAM NEESON | ED HARRIS



**RUN ALL NIGHT**

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MON-THURS 4:35 | 7:00 | 9:25  
 FRI 4:35 | 7:00 | 9:25 | 11:50  
 SAT 2:10 | 4:35 | 7:00 | 9:25 | 11:50  
 SUN & HOL 2:10 | 4:35 | 7:00 | 9:25

VINCE VAUGHN | DAVE FRANCO

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WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES

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 FRI-SAT 3:55 | 6:30 | 9:05 | 11:40  
 SUN & HOL 3:55 | 6:30 | 9:05

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

MON-THURS 5:35 | 7:35 | 9:35  
 FRI 5:35 | 7:35 | 9:35 | 11:35  
 SAT 5:35 | 7:35 | 9:35 | 11:35  
 SUN & HOL 5:35 | 7:35 | 9:35

WILL SMITH | MARGOT ROBBIE

**f o c u s**

WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES

MON-THURS 4:50 | 7:10 | 9:30  
 FRI 4:50 | 7:10 | 9:30 | 11:50  
 SAT 2:30 | 4:50 | 7:10 | 9:30 | 11:50  
 SUN & HOL 2:30 | 4:50 | 7:10 | 9:30

SHARLTO COPLEY | DEV PATEL

**CHAPPIE**

MON-THURS 4:10 | 6:45 | 9:20  
 FRI 4:10 | 6:45 | 9:20 | 11:55  
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## PGA TOUR

Continued from page 17

The competition seems to be everywhere these days, even if McIlroy is just starting the PGA Tour portion of his schedule.

Bubba Watson already has two Masters and a World Golf Championship, and he cannot be overlooked at Augusta National next month when he goes for a third green jacket in four years. Jack Nicklaus is the only other player to win that many in such a short stretch.

Jason Day, already a winner at Torrey Pines this year, is healthy and working harder than ever. He has been at Bay Hill for two days this week, spent Tuesday afternoon in the hot sun with a towel wrapped around his chest and under his arms during a chipping drill. He tried to land his pitch shots on a tube of lip balm placed about 25 feet away and nailed it on the sixth try.

The 21-year-old Spieth, in his third season, already has amassed more than \$10 million for his career and picked up his second PGA Tour title (fourth worldwide). Brooks Koepka won against a strong field in Turkey and Phoenix. Dustin Johnson, after sitting out for six months, lost in a playoff at Riviera and won the



**Jordan Spieth blasts from a sand trap on the third hole during the third round of the Valspar Championship golf tournament Saturday, March 14, 2015, at Innisbrook in Palm Harbor, Fla.**

Associated Press

World Golf Championship at Doral in a span of three weeks. Koepka and Johnson are examples of how much more athletic golf looks now.

The next generation — the group now faced with challenging McIlroy — grew up watching Tiger Woods outclass his competition. They were, in effect, trained by Tiger. They are hungry. And they are not intimidated by anything or anyone.

Patrick Reed went so far as to dress like Woods, with black pants and a red shirt on Sunday. The 25-year-old Reed already has won four times, and he even showed the kind of fight that would have impressed his golfing hero in the playoff at Innisbrook when he twice turned impossible shots into pars until Spieth beat him

had on him.

"He was so much better than anyone else at the time," Reed said. "With my growing up and watching it, I tried to copy his mental strength. ... You could see it just by looking at him in the eye. If looks could kill you, he would literally kill you. He was so focused and determined to play well. And that's what I'm trying to do."

Matt Every, who picked up his first PGA Tour win last year in the Arnold Palmer Invitational, is in his fifth year on tour and already has no-

possibilities every week.

"When I first got out here, about 20 percent of guys were in shape. Now it's 80 percent," Every said. "You hardly ever see a young looking sloppy."

Whether this great depth is a detriment to golf is the question.

It's easy to say that golf needs a dominant player because it had one for some 15 years. Even when Price went on his great run in 1994, he shared the stage with Nick Faldo and Greg Norman. Ernie Els and Phil Mickelson were the rising stars.

Woods didn't have a rival. He had rivals, a revolving door of them for a decade, from Els to David Duval, from Mickelson to Vijay Singh.

McIlroy isn't as dominant as Woods, at least not yet.

There is no argument who is the best player in golf. And it's not because of the world ranking but because McIlroy won the British Open and PGA Championship in a span of four weeks and joined Nicklaus, Woods and Bobby Jones as the only players in the last century to win four majors by age 25. These things don't happen by accident. For now, the one comparison McIlroy has with Woods is trying to settle on a rival.

There are more options now. □



**Patrick Reed holds up his golf ball for the gallery after putting out on the 16th hole during the third round of the Valspar Championship golf tournament Saturday, March 14, 2015, at Innisbrook in Palm Harbor, Fla.**

Associated Press

with a 30-foot birdie.

Reed spoke late last year about the influence Woods

noticed how much harder it is to win because of so many



**In this Wednesday, June 27, 2012 file photo, Wayne Odesnik of the United States returns a shot during a first round men's singles match against Bjorn Phau of Germany at the All England Lawn Tennis Championships at Wimbledon, England.**

Associated Press

## Odesnik banned 15 years for 2nd doping violation

**LONDON (AP)** — American tennis player Wayne Odesnik was banned Wednesday for 15 years after a second doping violation, a sanction that essentially ends his career.

The International Tennis Federation said the 29-year-old Odesnik tested positive for several banned substances, including steroids, during tests in December and January. The ban was back-dated to Jan. 30 and will run until Jan. 29, 2030.

Odesnik was first sanc-

tioned in 2010 for the possession of human growth hormone. Odesnik was off the tour from April 2010 to August 2011 after pleading guilty in Australia to importing HGH. He denied using the drug, and repeatedly said he never tested positive.

The ITF originally banned him for two years, but cut the penalty in half, saying he cooperated with investigators. Andy Murray and other players later criticized Odesnik, wondering aloud in what way the American

might have cooperated with doping authorities.

"Bye bye Wayne... Good riddance," Murray, a two-time Grand Slam champion, tweeted Wednesday. At last year's U.S. Open, Odesnik earned a wildcard but lost to eventual finalist Kei Nishikori in the first round. It was the first time he played in the tournament's main draw since 2009, shortly before his first ban.

This year, he lost in qualifying ahead of the Australian Open. □



# Smashed your HTC One? No problem, they'll replace it

ANICK JESDANUN

AP Technology Writer

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Cracked your screen or dropped your phone in the toilet? No problem, if you buy HTC's new One smartphone.

Starting next month when new phones go on sale, HTC will replace damaged phones free of charge during its normal 12-month warranty period — no questions asked. The offer expands on HTC Corp.'s current pledge to replace cracked screens for the first six months. HTC is trying to distinguish itself from Apple, Samsung and other smaller Android phone makers with this offer. Despite good reviews, HTC wasn't on IDC's or Gartner's lists of top five smartphone makers in 2014.

As phone technology starts to plateau, HTC is turning to customer service for fresh ways to innovate, said Jason Mackenzie, president of HTC Americas. HTC

wants customers to feel comfortable showing off their phones, not hide them in protective cases. He said the program also will give parents peace of mind when handing phones to toddlers to keep them entertained.

"We see a big opportunity because that smartphone is the one thing you'll take everywhere," he said. "It's prone to accidents."

Like last year's version, the new HTC One model has a metal design and polished finish. The camera is improved and now takes shots at 20 megapixels, on par with other leading Android phones. The HTC One's screen remains 5 inches diagonally. The phones will start going on sale in the U.S. in early April, at prices that have yet to be announced.

The replacement program, called Uh Oh Protection, will begin when the new phones go on sale. Last



This product image provided by HTC shows front and rear views of the HTC One M9 smartphone.

Associated Press

year's models will be eligible if they are purchased on that date or later. It's available in the U.S. only. HTC won't charge deductibles or other fees, but will replace a phone only once. Customers will call a toll-free number to have a replacement phone shipped and then have 30 days to mail back the damaged phone. Customers who don't replace their phones will

get \$100 off their next HTC One. Because of that, Mackenzie expects some customers will still keep phones with minor blemishes.

The offer doesn't cover phones that are lost or stolen, so customers might still need insurance through their wireless carriers. Insurance also would cover damage after HTC's 12-month coverage period. □

# German court bans Uber's ridesharing service

**BERLIN (AP)** — A German court banned Uber from offering its ridesharing service nationwide on Wednesday, adding to the company's troubles in Europe.

Frankfurt state court spokesman Arne Hasse said the ruling banning the UberPop service from offering rides with drivers who don't have taxi permits was issued Wednesday. The ruling can be appealed.

The ruling stems from a suit brought against Uber by a German taxi association, which was heard in Frankfurt because it is one of several German cities where Uber launched operations.

The court issued an injunction banning Uber from operating last summer but lifted it a few weeks later, saying that while it considered Uber's practices illegal an emergency injunction wasn't justified.

Uber also has hit trouble in the Netherlands, Spain and France, which has effectively banned its service.

Uber said it regrets the Frankfurt court's ruling, calling it "a defeat for all those who want more choice in their personal mobility."

It added that it is "working on an alternative ridesharing offer that we are adapting specifically to the formalities in Germany," but didn't elaborate.

Taxi associations accuse Uber of allowing its drivers to skirt safety and insurance regulations that conventional cabs have to abide by. □

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## FedEx 3Q profit jumps, but revenue, outlook disappoint

**NEW YORK (AP)** — FedEx Corp.'s third-quarter profit jumped more than 50 percent and beat Wall Street expectations on a mix of volume growth and lower fuel costs.

The Memphis, Tennessee-based package delivery company's revenue edged up but missed expectations as lower fuel surcharges and unfavorable currency exchange rates tempered the benefits of

volume growth. Its forecast for the full year also was below expectations.

Its shares fell more than 2 percent in afternoon trading. The company earned \$580 million, or \$2.01 per share, for the three months ended Feb. 28. That was up from \$378 million, or \$1.23 per share, a year ago. The average estimate of 14 analysts surveyed by Zacks Investment Research was for earnings of \$1.88 per share.

Revenue rose slightly to \$11.72 billion, missing Street forecasts, with eight analysts surveyed by Zacks expecting \$11.85 billion.

"We had a very successful peak season as volumes grew across all transportation segments, and our profit improvement programs are moving ahead as scheduled," CEO Frederick W. Smith said in a statement.

The company has been re-

structuring its largest unit, Air Express, in part by modernizing its fleet. Revenue in that unit was essentially flat because of lower fuel surcharges and currency rates, though operating results improved because of fuel costs and weather.

Revenue in the company's ground business rose 7 percent because of growth both business to business and home delivery services. Freight segment

revenue rose 6 percent.

Looking ahead, the company narrowed its full-year outlook to between \$8.80 and \$8.95 per share, down from prior guidance of \$8.50 to \$9 per share. Analysts surveyed by FactSet expected \$8.97 per share. Shares of FedEx dropped \$2.08, or 1.2 percent, to \$173.63 in afternoon trading Wednesday. Its shares are up about 25 percent so far this year. □

## Stocks, bonds rally as Fed says it may move slowly on rates



A screen on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange shows the decision of the Federal Reserve, Wednesday, March 18, 2015. The Federal Reserve is signaling that it's edging closer to raising interest rates from record lows in light of a strengthening job market. The Fed no longer says it will be "patient" in starting to raise its benchmark rate.

(AP Photo/Richard Drew)

**STEVE ROTHWELL**  
AP Markets Writer

**NEW YORK (AP)** — The Federal Reserve surprised finan-

cial markets on Wednesday with a cautious outlook on the economy, pushing stocks and bonds sharply

higher. After wrapping up a two-day meeting, Fed policymakers left open the pos-

sibility of a rate increase later in the year, but also lowered the central bank's forecast for economic growth and noted that inflation would likely remain low.

Investors judged that the tentative tone stuck by policymakers meant that while rates may soon be heading higher, the pace of any increases will be more moderate than they had previously thought.

Stocks swung from losses earlier in the day to big gains after the Fed released its post-meeting statement. Bonds also rallied, pushing the yield on the 10-year Treasury note back below 2 percent. The dollar plunged against the euro.

"There is very little to suggest that the Fed is going to raise rates aggressively

this year," said Jeremy Zirin, an investment strategist at UBS Wealth Management. The Standard & Poor's 500 index rose 25.22 points, or 1.2 percent, to 2,099.50. The index had been down as much as 11 points before the release of the Fed's statement at 2:00 p.m. Eastern time.

The Dow Jones industrial average gained 227.11 points, or 1.3 percent, to 18,076.19. The Nasdaq composite rose 45.39 points, or 0.9 percent, to 4,982.83.

Energy companies led the gains for stocks as the price of oil spiked after the Fed's statement. Lower rates tend to make oil and other hard assets more attractive investments, increasing their prices. The energy sector in the S&P 500 jumped 2.9 percent. □

## Nintendo reverses course; makes deal for mobile games

**NICK WINGFIELD**  
© 2015 New York Times

For years, Nintendo had insisted that it would not take its beloved cast of video game characters, including Mario and Zelda, to the smartphones and tablets that tens of millions of people now use to play games. But this week, Nintendo reversed its position on mobile devices, dropping a pledge that had come to seem increasingly detached from the habits of game players.

The company said it had formed a partnership with another Japanese company that specializes in mobile

games, DeNA, to develop games based on Nintendo brands for smartphones and tablets. The two companies said they planned to create an online gaming service to be introduced this fall that will be accessible from mobile devices, PCs and Nintendo's own game systems.

Nintendo promised that it was not abandoning the business of making its own game hardware, saying that it had a new game platform under development. The company's president, Satoru Iwata, said Nintendo would share more details about the

product, code-named NX, next year.

For Nintendo, the risk of ignoring mobile was that its whimsical games would lose relevance to popular mobile games like Minecraft, Angry Birds and Clash of Clans, especially among younger players. Other established companies and figures in the game industry, including Electronic Arts, came to recognize the importance of mobile games much earlier.

"Welcome to three years ago, Nintendo," Cliff Bleszinski, a prominent game designer, cracked on Twitter.

Nintendo has long favored its traditional approach of designing games only for its own hardware, including the Wii U console and portable players like the Nintendo 3DS. Its position was somewhat like that of Apple, which believes it can create high-quality products only by controlling devices and the software that runs them.

Even Apple, though, swiftly bowed to the realities of the PC market, creating its iTunes software and service for dominant Windows computers. Nintendo's aversion to mobile devices, in contrast, came to seem

dogmatic and hazardous to the future of the company.

Nintendo's sales and profits suffered badly in recent years as game-playing on smartphones and tablets skyrocketed. Most mobile games are far cheaper than Nintendo games, especially the free-to-play games that are so common on mobile devices.

The rise of mobile gaming is particularly galling for Nintendo, which practically invented the concept of playing games on the go with devices like the Game Boy and the more recent 3DS. □



## Strength Is Weakness



PAUL KRUGMAN  
© 2015 New York Times

We've been warned over and over that the Federal Reserve, in its effort to improve the economy, is "debas[ing] the dollar. The archaic word itself tells you a lot about where the people issuing such warnings are coming from. It's an allusion to the ancient practice of replacing pure gold or silver coins with "debased" coins in which the precious-metal content was adulterated with cheaper stuff. Message to the gold bugs and Ayn Rand disciples who dominate the Republican Party: That's not how modern money works. Still, the Fed's critics keep insisting that easy-money policies will lead to a plunging dollar.

Reality, however, keeps declining to oblige. Far from heading downstairs to debasement, the dollar has soared through the roof. (Sorry.) Over the past year, it has risen 20 percent, on average, against other major currencies; it's up 27 percent against the euro. Hooray for the strong dollar!

Or not. Actually, the strong dollar is bad for America. In an immediate sense, it will weaken our long-delayed economic recovery by widening the trade deficit. In a deeper sense, the message from the dollar's surge is that we're less insulated than many thought from problems overseas. In particular, you should think of the strong dollar/weak euro combination as the way Europe exports its troubles to the rest of the world, America very much included.

Some background: U.S. growth has improved lately, with employment rising at a pace not seen since the Clinton years. Yet the state of the economy still leaves a lot to be desired. In particular, the absence of much evidence for rising wages tells us that the job market is still weak despite the fall in the headline unemployment rate. Meanwhile, the returns America offers investors are ridiculously low by historical standards, with even long-term bonds paying only a bit more than 2 percent interest. Currency markets, however, always grade countries on a curve. The United States isn't exactly booming, but it looks great compared with Europe, where the present is bad and the future looks worse. Even before the new Greek crisis blew up, Europe was

starting to resemble Japan without the social cohesion: Within the eurozone, the working-age population is shrinking, investment is weak, and much of the region is flirting with deflation. Markets have responded to those poor prospects by pushing interest rates incredibly low. In fact, many European bonds are now offering negative interest rates.

This remarkable situation makes even those low, low U.S. returns look attractive by comparison. So capital is heading our way, driving the euro down and the dollar up.

Who wins from this market move? Europe: a weaker euro makes European industry more competitive against rivals, boosting both exports and firms that compete with imports, and the effect is to mitigate the euro slump. Who loses? We do, as our industry loses competitiveness, not just in European markets but in countries where our exports compete with theirs. America has been experiencing a modest manufacturing revival in recent years, but that revival will be cut short if the dollar stays this high for long.

In effect, then, Europe is managing to export some of its stagnation to the rest of us. We're not talking about a nefarious plot, about so-called currency wars; it's just the way things work in a global economy with highly mobile capital and market-determined exchange rates.

And the effects may be quite large. If markets believe that Europe's weakness will last a long time, we would expect the euro to fall and the dollar to rise enough to eliminate much if not most of the difference in interest rates, which would mean severely crimping U.S. growth.

One thing that worries me is that I'm not at all sure that policymakers have fully taken the implications of a rising dollar into account. The Fed, still eager to raise interest rates despite low inflation and stagnant wages, seems to me to be too sanguine about the economic drag. And the most recent Fed minutes suggested that some members of the committee that governs monetary policy were thoroughly clueless, apparently believing that inflows of capital would make the U.S. economy stronger, not weaker. Oh, and one more thing: A lot of businesses around the world have borrowed heavily in dollars, which means that a rising dollar may create a whole new set of debt crises. Just what the global economy needed.

Is there a policy moral to all this? One thing is that it's really important for all of us that Mario Draghi at the European Central Bank and associates succeed in steering Europe away from a deflationary trap; the euro is their currency, but it turns out to be our problem. Mainly, though, this is another reason for the Fed to fight the urge to pretend that the crisis is over. Don't raise rates until you see the whites of inflation's eyes! □



## Globe? Warm? Who, Me?



GAIL COLLINS  
© 2015 New York Times

This is the time of year when we start to think about global warming. Because the weather is about to get warmer. Please God.

A new angle comes up almost every day. A Harvard professor recently reported that 7,000-year-old mummies in Chile are turning into "black ooze" because the air around them is getting more humid. In California, baby sea lions are in trouble because the ocean is heating up. Meanwhile, in Florida, there's a report that state employees have been barred from using the term "climate change."

Since Florida is drowning in rising tides, you'd think this would be a tough rule to follow. It would be like telling prosecutors in New York not to mention the term "indicted state legislator." Or banning Texas road crews from ever saying "dead armadillo."

But, according to the Florida Center for Investigative Reporting, some employees at the Florida Department of Environmental Protection say they have indeed been directed to avoid the terms "global warming" and "climate change," even when they're talking about conserving the coastline or the coral reefs. Gov. Rick Scott denies there is any prohibition, and it's certainly

possible his underlings just decided to clamp down on their own, once they became aware of his position.

The governor's position is to point out that he is "not a scientist" whenever the topic comes up. It'd be a bit tough to follow suit if you are, say, a DEP scientist. But other people find his approach extremely attractive. Former governor and future presidential candidate Jeb Bush has revealed that he, too, is not a scientist. A spokeswoman told The Wall Street Journal that Bush does believe the climate is changing but he's not sure about "the extent to which humans contribute." Also, whatever he concludes is not going to involve "alarmist, far left environmental policies."

Most of the other potential Republican contenders follow a similar route when they can't avoid the matter entirely. The one who's been pressed hardest on global warming recently may be the governor of Wisconsin, Scott Walker, who was at a conservative conference outside of Washington when he was approached by a second-grader who wanted to know where he stood. Walker said he is a former Boy Scout who "always thought maybe campsites should be cleaner." I swear.

"Do you care about climate change?" the child pressed. He is the son of an environmental activist, so don't be expecting this kind of persistence every time a politician takes a grade-school tour.

"Ultimately, to me, I want to make sure that we have all the natural resources as possible moving forward just like I've done for everybody in Wisconsin. OK?" responded the governor.

Now climate change is perhaps the most important long-term issue the next American president will have to deal with. Our international enemies will come and go; our deficits will rise and fall. But if the atmosphere keeps getting clogged with greenhouse

gases, future generations will be too busy with the floods and droughts to care.

If you were seriously thinking about running for president of the United States, wouldn't this be something you'd want to have studied up on? Have you ever heard anybody say he couldn't comment on tax policy because he wasn't an accountant?

These guys don't act like people who think the scientists are wrong when they say global warming is real, and that human activity creates all or part of the problem. They act like people who don't want to have to face up to the facts and come up with solutions. Which would involve making the coal and oil companies super unhappy.

They're sort of like the mayor in "Jaws" who won't admit there's a killer shark out there because it's the start of the town's tourism season. ("Now I am not a marine biologist...")

It's one thing to be a climate-change denier like Sen. James Inhofe, the (gasp) chairman of the Environment and Public Works Committee, who brought a snowball into the Senate to demonstrate his conviction that the Earth is not getting warmer. It's another to pretend as if it's OK to dodge the whole question.

If you're a presidential candidate, the only three intellectually honest answers to global warming queries are:

"My thoughts about this are similar to those of my intellectual role model, James Inhofe."

"Yes, climate change is real, and I will give you my plan for reducing carbon emissions just as soon as my six biggest campaign donors finish slamming the door on their way out."

"Sure, it's real. But by the time Miami goes under water, I'll be dead. So who cares?"

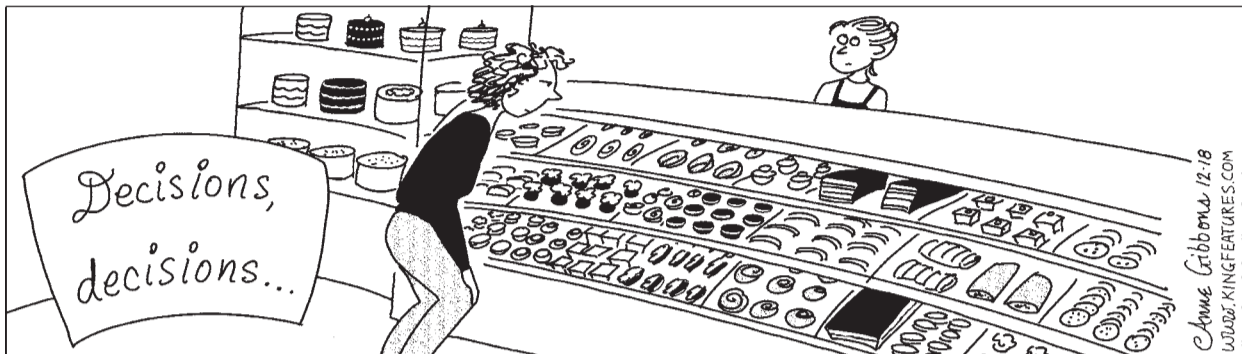
Or you can tell people that the shark might or might not be in the water, and might or might not be hungry, but that this is no time to stop swimming. □



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**Conceptis Sudoku**

	6		2		1			8	
5									9
				7					
9			5		8				2
		2					6		
7			9		6				8
				5					
2									7
	7		6		3			1	

Difficulty Level ★★★ 12/18

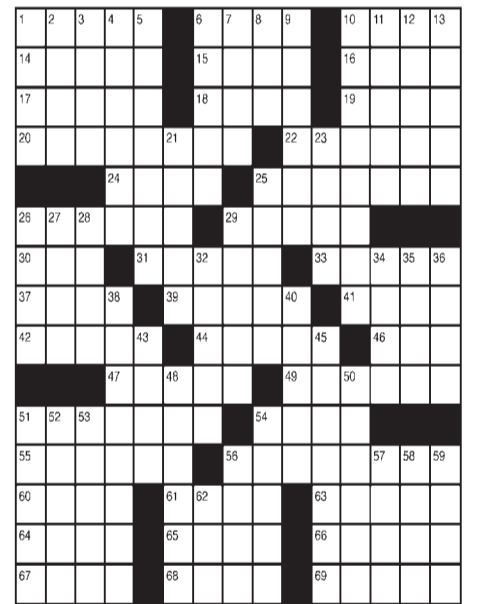
Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

4	2	8	5	9	7	1	6	3
1	3	7	8	4	6	9	5	2
6	9	5	3	2	1	4	8	7
8	1	6	2	7	5	3	4	9
5	4	9	1	3	8	2	7	6
2	7	3	4	6	9	8	1	5
3	6	2	7	8	4	5	9	1
9	8	1	6	5	3	7	2	4
7	5	4	9	1	2	6	3	8

**ACROSS**

- 1 \_\_\_ for; chose
- 6 Actor Everett
- 10 Part of a tooth
- 14 Lasso loop
- 15 Animal pelt
- 16 "\_\_\_ bigger and better things!"
- 17 Thrill
- 18 "\_\_\_ grill"; new parents' cry
- 19 Flying saucers, for short
- 20 Soft drinks
- 22 Fox or foxhound
- 24 Afternoon socials
- 25 Hoodlum
- 26 Mean woman in a fairy tale
- 29 "An \_\_\_ of prevention is worth..."
- 30 Misery
- 31 Bleacher levels
- 33 \_\_\_ down; diets successfully
- 37 Black-\_\_\_ peas
- 39 Wise men
- 41 \_\_\_ up; absorb
- 42 Bank vaults
- 44 Xenon & argon
- 46 Nintendo video game console
- 47 Police car's blaring device
- 49 Competitors
- 51 Indulgent grandma, often
- 54 Cougar
- 55 19th-century U.S. President
- 56 Meekness
- 60 In addition
- 61 Fashionable
- 63 Agile; nimble
- 64 In \_\_\_ of; as a substitute for
- 65 Sound the horn
- 66 Like some elephants
- 67 Plenty
- 68 Baseball's Mel and his family
- 69 Takes a nap



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews 12/18/14

**Wednesday's Puzzle Solved**

ARE	SCALD	SNIP
SERB	PIXIE	CELL
SAGA	OVENS	HALE
PORPOISES	ITSA	
	RILL	ELS
AGREES	ATREMBLE	
HAULS	CRATE	LOB
EBBS	HUMPS	WACO
ALE	PORES	PECAN
DESERTED	WEEKLY	
	DOC	SANK
GLOW	ARCHITECT	
NOVA	KARAT	NAIL
USER	ERODE	DARE
SEND	SEWER	NET

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- 2 Sport played on horseback
- 3 Frog's cousin
- 4 Manor and the land around it
- 5 Most profound
- 6 Lay's potato \_\_\_
- 7 Swats
- 8 Commercials
- 9 Church official
- 10 Gives advice to
- 11 Not qualified
- 12 Gem
- 13 Baffling question
- 21 Desert refuge
- 23 Kindergartner's recitation
- 25 Thinks deeply
- 26 Runs up a tab
- 27 Spanish artist
- 28 Coral ridge
- 29 Keyboard instrument
- 32 Gung ho
- 34 Des Moines, \_\_\_
- 35 Postman's load
- 36 Footwear for Jean-Claude Killy
- 38 \_\_\_ of; wanting
- 40 Watery part of the blood
- 43 Fodder tower
- 45 Alike
- 48 Resound
- 50 Suitcase
- 51 Tiny
- 52 FDR's affliction
- 53 Beginning
- 54 Hockey disks
- 56 Helpful clue
- 57 "\_\_\_ what it is"
- 58 This and \_\_\_
- 59 Strong urges
- 62 Extremely spicy



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## British DNA gives window into ancient past, Vikings and all

**MALCOLM RITTER**  
**AP Science Writer**

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Genetic samples collected from across the United Kingdom are shedding light on the ancient past, including Viking invasions and a mystery about the arrival of the Anglo-Saxons, researchers report.

The DNA also suggests that, genetically speaking, people in Wales are the closest matches to early settlers of Britain after the last ice age, people who began showing up some 10,000 to 11,000 years ago.

That's because the Welsh genetic material has been the least affected by later migrations, said Peter Donnelly of Oxford University, a key author of the research. The work is presented in a paper released Wednesday by the journal Nature. The researchers studied DNA samples from 2,039 white residents of Britain and Northern Ireland, chosen for their family roots in rural areas. The DNA they inherited from their grandparents reflects the genetic landscape of those areas in the late 1880s, researchers said.

To identify signs of ancient immigrations, the researchers consulted DNA samples taken from continental Europeans. Analysis showed that Danish Vikings, who occupied and controlled a large part of England after invading in the year



In this June 22, 1939 file photo, participants in a "Gorsedd," a group of poets and bards, announce the upcoming 1940 Welsh Eisteddfod cultural festival at Bridgend, Glamorganshire, Wales, at an ancient druid stone circle near the River Ogwar.

Associated Press

865, have left no clear genetic heritage today. That suggests they didn't settle in large numbers, Donnelly

said in an email. The study also weighed in on the question of what happened after Anglo-

Saxons migrated into Britain from Europe, which began in the fifth century. After they showed up, their lan-

guage, cereal crops and pottery styles replaced those of the existing British population. □

## US records: This winter hottest on record globally

**SETH BORENSTEIN**  
**AP Science Writer**

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — U.S. federal records show that this winter and the first two months of 2015 were the hottest on record globally. At nearly 1.5 degrees Fahr-

enheit (-17 Celsius) above 20th century average, last month was the second warmest February on record globally, slightly behind 1998. But the combined January and February temperature

beat the old record for the first two months set in 2002. December through February broke the meteorological winter record set in 2007. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration records go back to

1880. Parts of Russia, Asia, Europe, Australia, Africa, South America and especially the U.S. West were extra warm. A chilly U.S. East stuck out like a cold thumb in a toasty world. □

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## Betsey Johnson to receive CFDA lifetime achievement honor



In this Jan. 24, 2007 file photo, designer Betsey Johnson speaks during an interview at her design studio in New York.

Associated Press

**The Associated Press**  
**NEW YORK (AP)** — Betsey Johnson will receive a lifetime achievement award from the Council of Fashion Designers of America. Fellow designer Diane von Furstenberg, president of the fashion industry trade association, and Nadja Swarovski of the Swarovski Group announced the selection Monday night, along with other nominees and honorees for the 2015 CFDA awards, to be presented June 1 at Lincoln Center.

Tom Ford was last year's recipient of the CFDA's Geoffrey Beene Lifetime Achievement Award. Johnson is being honored during her 50th year in fashion. She started her whimsical label in 1978, expanding in 2004 as a lifestyle brand encompassing handbags, leather goods, footwear, eyewear, luggage, fragrances and jewelry. Johnson is known for an eternally youthful vibe, including poofy prom dresses, a vintage vibe and bright color. □

## Fellow Beatle McCartney ushering Ringo into rock hall

**DAVID BAUDER**  
**Associated Press**  
**NEW YORK (AP)** — Paul McCartney has agreed to induct his former Beatles mate, Ringo Starr, into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame next month.

Stevie Wonder, Patti Smith and John Mayer will also usher in new members, the hall announced on Wednesday. The 30th annual induction ceremony is scheduled for Cleveland's Public Hall on April 18. The Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum is located in Cleveland. The Beatles are in the rock hall already, and so are McCartney, John Lennon and George Harrison as solo artists. Drummer Starr is the last to be honored individually, and Eagle Joe Walsh will perform some of his friend's music. Wonder will induct Bill Withers, a fellow songwriter who had his biggest impact in the 1970s. John Legend will perform Withers' music, and it's still a mystery whether Withers, who quit the music business more than 30 years ago, will sing. Rock hall spokeswoman Shauna Wilson said it's still to be determined which inductees will



In this Jan. 26, 2014 file photo, Paul McCartney, left, and Ringo Starr appear at the 56th annual Grammy Awards in Los Angeles. Associated Press

perform. Smith will induct another artist indelibly tied to New York, the late Lou Reed, and Beck will perform his music. Mayer is speaking in honor of another blues guitarist, the late Stevie Ray Vaughan. Vaughan's brother Jimmie will perform with members of his brother's old band, Double Trouble. Dave Grohl has committed to performing inductee

Joan Jett's music, although the hall hasn't announced who will give the speech for the "I Love Rock and Roll" singer. Peter Wolf will induct the Paul Butterfield Blues Band, with Tom Morello performing the band's music. Fall Out Boy will induct Green Day and guitarist Steve Cropper is scheduled to honor the "5" Royales. □

## Red-nosed peacock: NBC to air 'Red Nose Day' charity special

**LYNN ELBER**  
**AP Television Writer**  
**LOS ANGELES (AP)** — Britain's famed Red Nose Day charity event will make its U.S. debut with a NBC special benefiting anti-poverty groups. Money raised by the three-hour "Red Nose Day" broadcast on May 21 will be used to help children and families in Africa, Asia and Latin America as well as the United States, NBC said Wednesday. The 12 charities that are to share in the donations include the Boys & Girls Clubs of America, Children's Health Fund and United Way. Red Nose Day, operated by Comic Relief in Britain, was co-founded in 1985

by filmmaker Richard Curtis ("Love Actually," "Bridget Jones's Diary"). Celebrities, schoolchildren and others traditionally don red clown noses to promote the event, a reflection of its lighthearted approach. The biennial March U.K. broadcast, featuring stars, comedy and music, has received more than \$1 billion in donations since it began, according to its organizers. Emma Watson, Daniel Craig and Orlando Bloom were among the stars appearing in the 2015 special, which aired last week. "Red Nose Day is almost like a national holiday in the U.K. — it's a day of real excitement, everyone looks forward to it and the entire country gets involved in

some way," actress Sienna Miller ("American Sniper") said in a statement. "I'm thrilled it's coming to the U.S." NBC has yet to announce the talent roster for its special, but "Mad Men" star Jon Hamm was featured in a promotional spot that aired during the Super Bowl. Curtis, who is an executive producer for the NBC special, said he hopes it will make "a massive difference to the lives of millions of children and their families in the U.S. and in the poorest countries around the world." Red Nose Day USA is run by Comic Relief Inc., an independent sister organization of Britain's Comic Relief. □



This undated photo provided by NBC shows Christina Aguilera posing for a photo for "Red Nose Day."

Associated Press



# Durst murder case: When should the media go to the police?

**DAVID BAUDER**

**AP Television Writer**

**NEW YORK (AP)** — It was a filmmaker, not police, who uncovered a crucial piece of evidence in the murder case against Manhattan real estate millionaire Robert Durst. The sensational small-screen moments created by HBO's "The Jinx" confronted documentarian Andrew Jarecki with an ethical question that is likely to come up again, given the popularity of true-crime TV: Should a television sleuth's priority lie in making good entertainment or in seeing that justice is served?

Jarecki's team found a Durst writing sample that appears to match the handwriting in a letter sent to Beverly Hills police alerting them to the body of Susan Berman, a friend of Durst's who was killed 15 years ago. Durst was arrested in the slaying last weekend shortly before the finale of "The Jinx," which exhaustively examined Durst's alleged role in three killings.

It's not clear when that writing sample was found, but the filmmakers confronted Durst with that evidence in an April 2012 interview.



**Robert Durst is escorted into Orleans Parish Prison after his arraignment in Orleans Parish Criminal District Court in New Orleans, Tuesday, March 17, 2015.**

The filmmakers did not tell authorities about the evidence until October 2012. It's not clear why it took several months, but Jarecki explained in an interview on ABC on Monday that he wanted to get Durst on film addressing that piece of evidence before it was turned over to the authorities.

"As filmmakers, we have

the freedom to do things that maybe the law enforcement authorities wouldn't have," he said on "Good Morning America." "But at the same time, we didn't want to hold it back if it was going to take forever. ... When we had the reaction, we felt the time was right to show that" to authorities.

The filmmakers also shared

with authorities the gripping audio that aired this past Sunday of Durst mumbling that he "killed them all."

Jarecki stopped giving interviews midway through Monday, citing the likelihood he will be called to testify in the case.

There is no legal requirement that a filmmaker or journalist investigating a

crime turn over such material to authorities, said Jeannine Pirro, Fox News Channel host and former district attorney in New York's Westchester County, where she investigated the still-unsolved disappearance of Durst's first wife.

"Kudos to Jarecki" and his filmmaking partner Marc Smerling, Pirro said. "They unearthed something that law enforcement didn't unearth. I'm glad they turned it over." It's a tricky question, though. Journalists investigating a criminal case must keep in mind that their loyalty is to the public they are trying to inform, not to law enforcement, said Susan Zirinsky, senior executive producer at CBS News' crime-focused newsmagazine "48 Hours." If her team uncovers previously unavailable evidence, her inclination is to report it at the same time authorities are alerted. An important exception is when the information can put someone in danger; then authorities need to know promptly to offer protection, she said. "You have to be a good journalist first," she said. "But you also have to be a good citizen." □

**Associated Press**

## Next Spielberg film 1<sup>st</sup> in decades without score by John Williams

**NEW YORK (AP)** — The next Steven Spielberg will be missing a familiar sound: A score by John Williams. For the first time in three decades, a Spielberg-directed film won't be scored by Williams. DreamWorks Pictures announced Wednesday that Spielberg's upcoming Cold War thriller "Bridge of Spies" will be scored by Thomas Newman.

Williams had previously been signed on to the film, but is departing, DreamWorks said, because of a minor health issue that has since been corrected. The last feature film Spielberg made without Williams was 1985's "The Color Pur-

ple," which Quincy Jones scored.

Williams will still score Spielberg's following film, the Roald Dahl adaption "The BFG."

"Bridge of Spies," to be release October 16, stars Tom Hanks as a Brooklyn lawyer tasked to negotiate the release of a captured pilot. □

**In this July 21, 2014 file photo, composer John Williams poses at the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences event "Behind the Score: The Art of the Film Composer" in Los Angeles.**

**Associated Press**



## 'GoodFellas' cast to reunite at Tribeca Film Festival

**NEW YORK (AP)** — The cast of Martin Scorsese's "GoodFellas" will reunite for the film's 25th anniversary at the Tribeca Film Festival.

The festival announced Wednesday that a re-mastered version of the gangster film classic will close the 14th annual Tribeca Film Festival on April 25. Following the screening at New York's Beacon Theatre, Jon Stewart will host a conversation with Scorsese and the cast, including Robert De Niro, Joe Pesci, Lorraine Bracco, Ray Liotta and Paul Sorvino.

De Niro, who co-founded the Tribeca Film Festival, said in a statement: "I was



**In this Jan. 17, 2010 file photo, Robert De Niro, left, and Martin Scorsese, winner of the Cecil B. DeMille Lifetime Achievement award backstage at the 67th Annual Golden Globe Awards in Beverly Hills, Calif.**

**Associated Press**

most proud of this film 25 years ago and equally proud of it now." The festival runs April 15-26. □



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